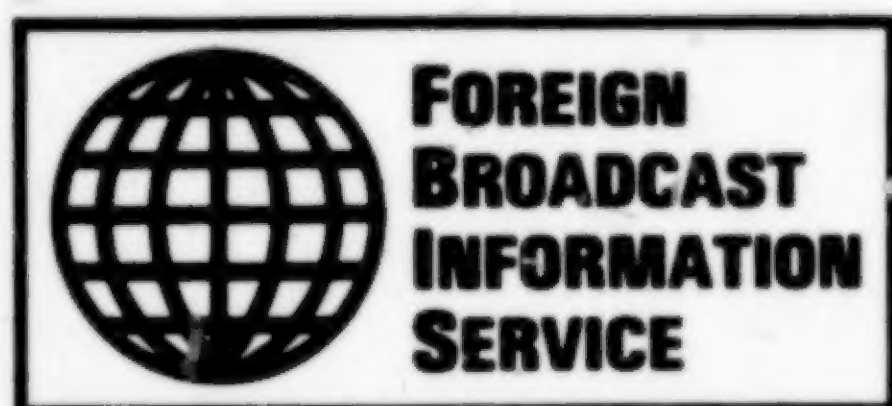




Daily Report

East Asia

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8 May 1990

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Japan

Patent Office Officials Say U.S. Yielding

OW0805000490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1435 GMT
7 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 7 KYODO—The United States has expressed its intention of making a concession to Japan and Europe by giving up its "first-to-invent" principle to pave the way for harmonization of world patent rules, Japan Patent Office officials said Monday. The officials hailed the U.S. concession as signaling its intention of working in earnest for harmonization of world patent rules.

Japan and European countries have adhered to the "first-to-file" principle, by which a patent is granted to the first to file for it, while the "first-to-invent" principle gives patent to the first to have invented a new product.

Efforts to harmonize world patent rules have been made through the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations to liberalize trade in goods and services. However, the U.S. insistence on the "first-to-invent" principle constituted the greatest obstacle to the proposed harmonization, the officials said.

They said the U.S. made the concession in a proposal at the Club of 15 meeting held in Munich from last Wednesday to Friday, at which Japan and various European countries were represented. The officials also said the U.S., in the same proposal, also made a major concession by making public the details of a newly-developed process for which a patent is being sought, before the granting of the patent. The U.S. has so far refused to reveal the details of a newly-invented process prior to having it patented.

Referring to the system of making public the details of a newly-invented process 18 months after patent application is made, the officials said the U.S. proposed that, in countries which meet the conditions for granting patents, for at least half of the applications the details of new inventions may be made public 24 months after filing, even before the granting of patent.

WIPO countries are expected to conclude a treaty in June 1991 for harmonization of world patent systems, officials said. Experts from WIPO countries are expected to meet from June 11 in Geneva for final adjustment of their differences in relation to the proposed treaty.

Guarded Optimism Expressed on Construction Issue

OW0705164990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1454 GMT
7 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 7 KYODO—A working-level review session on the construction market between Japanese and U.S. officials will be held on Tuesday and Thursday at the Foreign Ministry, ministry sources said Monday.

The bilateral talks represent the latest effort by the two countries to achieve wider foreign access to Japan's construction market.

The two sides had earlier agreed to hold a review session in two years after reaching broad-based accord on the opening of Japan's construction market in May 1988, the sources said.

The U.S. delegation is to be led by Michael Farren, undersecretary of commerce for international trade, while Japanese participants include bureau directors of the ministries of construction, transport, and foreign affairs.

Construction Ministry officials expressed guarded optimism about the performance of U.S. construction firms in the Japanese market during the previous two years. The officials noted that, in their analysis, the initial objectives envisaged by the two nations have been successfully achieved so far.

The United States has insisted that Tokyo allow U.S. companies to compete on construction jobs on equal terms with Japanese competitors, removing unfair barriers or practices. At the coming bilateral talks, the officials said, Japan hopes to explain to their U.S. counterparts the current market situation based on a host of objective data.

To date, a total of 12 U.S. companies have been given licenses from the government to work on Japanese public works projects.

Trade Minister Returns From Conference in U.S.

OW0605103390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0955 GMT
6 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Japanese Minister of International Trade and Industry Kabun Muto arrived back here Sunday afternoon from Napa, California, where he had been attending a meeting of trade ministers from the United States, Canada, the European Community and Japan last week.

Muto left here for Washington last Sunday for talks with Trade Representative Carla Hills and other U.S. leaders before flying to California to attend the quadrilateral trade ministers' talks.

Central Bank Governor Addresses IMF Meeting

OW0805020890 Tokyo KYODO in English 2349 GMT
7 May 90

[Text] Washington, May 7 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno told the International Monetary Fund [IMF] on Monday that Japan should have the No. 2 ranking in the world financial body in terms of both its subscription and voting power so as to reflect its economic strength. In a speech to the spring meeting in

Washington of the IMF's policymaking Interim Committee, Mieno said Japan's economy is now the second-largest in the world in terms of gross national product.

Mieno was speaking of a planned increase in IMF member subscriptions, called "quotas," which set member nations' voting power in the 152-nation lending agency. The quota increase, the ninth of its kind, has been delayed by a dispute over the size of the increase and how it should be apportioned.

Referring to an agreement reached Sunday by the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations, Mieno said Japan supports a 50 percent increase in IMF quotas. "Given the debt problem in developing nations and the need for support to economic reforms in Eastern Europe, Japan is in support of a 50 percent increase," Mieno said.

Mieno was speaking as head of the Japanese delegation to the IMF gathering, as Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto was unable to attend because he had to stay in Tokyo for deliberations in the Diet on the Fiscal 1990 budget. Mieno said Japan should be given a special quota increase to raise its quota share to the second-largest from its current fifth place.

Currently, the United States holds the largest quota share of 19.9 percent, and has a voting share of 19.1 percent, followed by Britain with 6.9 percent (6.6), West Germany 6.0 percent (5.8), France 5.0 percent (4.8), and Japan 4.7 percent (4.5).

The G-7 agreed Sunday that Japan and West Germany should share the No. 2 spot. Britain and France were reportedly discussing the possibility of sharing the No. 4 ranking.

Mieno urged that an agreement on the ninth quota increase be reached by the end of June, the deadline set by the IMF, and that the 10th quota increase be completed by the end of 1994. IMF quotas are subject to review every five years. The current review was due to have been carried out in 1988.

Touching on another IMF issue, Mieno stressed the need to take stronger measures to cope with the growing problem of Third World loan arrears in a package with the quota increase. He did not elaborate.

At present, 11 countries are in arrears on their loan payments to the IMF, with the total arrears amounting to some 4 billion dollars.

The G-7 nations have discussed the possibility of suspending votes of member nations with arrears as a solution to the thorny problem.

On other topics, Mieno reiterated concern about the present level of the yen, indicating his view that if it remains at that level it will be detrimental to progress in reducing Japan's current account surplus. Mieno said the yen's exchange rate should be stabilized to reflect Japan's strong economic fundamentals.

Mieno also said the major industrial nations should boost savings to prevent a spiral of global interest rate hikes and secure funds needed for market-oriented reforms in Eastern Europe and a capital flow into the Third World, so as to ensure sustained world economic growth.

Comments on Monetary Policy

OW0705025890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0202 GMT
7 May 90

[Text] Washington, May 6 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said on Sunday the central bank has no plan to change its monetary policy following a meeting of top financial officials from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations.

Mieno, speaking at a press conference after the eight-hour closed-door talks in Washington, said the G-7 communique expects each member-country to take action in monetary policy according to its own economic conditions.

Referring to the yen-U.S. dollar rate, Mieno said the assembled finance ministers and central bank chiefs agreed unanimously that the present level may have undesirable consequences for global economic expansion without inflation. They (the G-7 top financial officials) are dissatisfied with the present level, he said. The U.S. dollar was trading at 158 yen flat in Tokyo at mid-morning Monday.

Kaifu Stresses Importance of Stronger Yen

OW0805021090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0153 GMT
8 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Tuesday expressed his dissatisfaction with the present level in the value of the yen against the U.S. dollar, saying the Japanese currency should strengthen as a result of Sunday's Group of Seven (G-7) communique.

Kaifu told a group of reporters at the Diet building the G-7 communique, which called the yen's weakness "undesirable," should help the Japanese currency surge to an "appropriate level," which reflects Japan's fundamental economic strength.

The yen weakened against the dollar in Tokyo on Tuesday, with the U.S. currency opening at 158.15 yen, up 0.35 yen, as market players sensed there were no fresh grounds to prop up the yen in the Washington communique, dealers said.

Top monetary officials of G-7 nations—the United States, West Germany, France, Britain, Japan, Italy, and Canada—agreed the yen's present level may have "undesirable consequences" for global economic development without inflation.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Tuesday he is not worried about daily fluctuations on

currency markets but he is concerned about the way the yen-dollar rate goes in the middle and long term. Hashimoto made his comment at a press conference after a cabinet meeting.

Prime Minister Kaifu Returns From Asian Tour

*OW0605102290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0941 GMT
6 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu returned home Sunday from a nine-day Asian tour which took him to India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia.

PRC Criticizes Kaifu Trip

*OW0805105490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1017 GMT
8 May 90*

[Text] Beijing, May 8 KYODO—China blasted the recent trip by Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to South Asia as a bid for political influence that verged on interference in the region's internal affairs with its attempt to promote capitalism. Various periodicals said Kaifu's five-nation Asian tour marked a switch to "superpower diplomacy," with Japan providing development assistance in order to gain a voice in the economic policies of the nations he visited.

Kaifu, who returned to Japan on Sunday, visited India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia. He committed almost 200 billion yen in aid to the region during the trip.

The official PEOPLE'S DAILY said in a commentary Tuesday that Kaifu called for a lessening of government controls on the economy and the privatization of public enterprises as part of the Japanese pledge for economic aid.

The XINHUA NEWS AGENCY, in a commentary on Sunday by its Tokyo correspondent, portrayed Kaifu's trip as the beginning of Japan's superpower diplomacy.

Several periodicals, including the international affairs journal "WORLD KNOWLEDGE," also labeled the trip as Japan's bid for superpower status through economic might. The journal, in an article that appeared in the issue on sale Monday, said references to "freedom and democracy" and "world prosperity under a free market economy" in a policy speech Kaifu made to the parliament in Japan in March signaled Japan's intention to "ride the rails" of U.S. geopolitical strategy.

Japan's advocacy of democratic and market system reforms in extending aid to Eastern Europe, the WORLD KNOWLEDGE article said, also violated the declared principles of respect for sovereignty, non-interference, and self-reliance behind its Official Development Assistance.

The CHINA YOUTH NEWS daily, in an article published Monday, described Kaifu's trip as an attempt by a

frustrated Japan to assume a higher profile among the Western democracies. "Unable to attain the political superpower status like the United States despite being the world's largest creditor nation, Japan is emphasizing its place as a member of Asia seeking to strengthen its voice in the West," the daily said.

During his trip, Kaifu tried to reassure Asian nations in a speech to the Indian Parliament that aid to Eastern Europe would not lessen Japan's commitment to the Asian region.

ROK Presidential Visit Itinerary Published

*OW0805035990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0259 GMT
8 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—South Korean President No Tae-u will visit Japan May 24-26 as a state guest, the Japanese Government announced Tuesday. No's visit is the second by a South Korean head of state to Japan, following the ground-breaking visit by his predecessor Chon Tu-hwan in 1984.

A visit by No to Japan was twice postponed, first in the autumn of 1988 and then in the spring of 1989. The late Emperor Hirohito's final illness caused the planned 1988 visit to be canceled, while then Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's resignation led to the 1989 cancellation.

Emperor Akihito will host a banquet for No on the first night of his visit and is expected to offer words of regret for Japan's past colonial rule of the Korean peninsula, government sources said. South Korean officials are dissatisfied with Emperor Hirohito's 1984 words of regret which they describe as vague, the sources said.

The late Emperor, now called Emperor Showa, in a speech at a court banquet for President Chon on September 6, 1984, said, "It is indeed regrettable that there was an unfortunate past between us for a period in this century and I believe that it should not be repeated again." But he did not specify the nature of the "unfortunate past." Both sides have stressed their desire to put an end to past problems and launch a "new economic and political partnership."

No will meet Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu two times during his visit and officials are studying the possibility of an address to a plenary session of the House of Representatives on May 25. Also scheduled is a luncheon with business representatives led by Keidanren, the Federation of Economic Organizations.

Tight security is expected for No, with the National Police Agency planning to mobilize some 20,000 police to guard against extremists on both the right and left. The left-wing Chukakuha (Middle Core Faction) is opposed to the imperial system and has blasted No's visit as a step toward the revival of Japan's Greater East Asia Coprosperity Sphere of World War II.

Rightist criticism of No's visit centers on an unresolved territorial dispute between the two nations over South

Korean-held Takeshima Island, a rocky islet in the Sea of Japan which Koreans call Dokto.

In announcing the visit, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama also called for the cooperation of fellow cabinet members in implementing the terms of an agreement reached April 30 in Seoul on assuring a securer legal status for Korean residents in Japan.

The accord abolishes fingerprinting and alien registration cards for the legally defined third-generation of Korean residents in Japan, instituting a special registry system for them and their offspring. The justice and home affairs ministries have opposed the scrapping of the fingerprinting requirement in the past, citing public security concerns.

Some 680,000 Koreans live in Japan, including those brought here as forced laborers before and during World War II, and their descendants.

Alien Plan Benefits Korean-Taiwanese Residents

OW0805060690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0505 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—Reforms abolishing fingerprinting and alien registration requirements for some South Korean residents of Japan will also apply to residents of North Korean and Taiwanese descent, Justice Minister Shin Hasegawa indicated Tuesday. The present identification system will be replaced with a special registry for third-generation Korean residents in Japan, according to the terms of a bilateral agreement reached in Seoul on April 30.

Hasegawa told a cabinet session on Tuesday morning that similar measures will be taken for residents with "similar historical circumstances and degree of permanent residence." Japan colonized both the Korean peninsula and Taiwan before World War II, bringing both Koreans and Chinese to Japan to work as forced labor.

Japan grants permanent residence rights to most residents who came to Japan from these former colonies, but applies the same fingerprinting and other registration requirements as those for other non-Japanese. Non-Japanese living in Japan for more than a year must carry an alien registration certificate, on which they have to provide the print of their right index finger.

The new accord will exempt third-generation descendants, defined as the offspring of resident Koreans who were born after January 17, 1971, from the registration measures. Some 680,000 Koreans and almost 85,000 Chinese, mostly Taiwanese and their descendants, make their homes in Japan.

Ministry Urges Sihanouk To Attend Meeting

OW0805121490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1103 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 8 KYODO—Japan on Tuesday called on Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk to retain his central role in the Cambodian peace process and go through with proposed talks in Tokyo with Phnom Penh government leader Hun Sen.

"The Foreign Ministry strongly desires to see talks between Prince Sihanouk and (Prime Minister) Hun Sen materialize in Japan at an early stage as a step toward realizing peace in Cambodia," said Foreign Ministry Spokesman Taizo Watanabe. Watanabe was reacting to Sihanouk's declaration in Beijing on Monday that he would be unable to attend proposed talks with Hun Sen in Tokyo, tentatively set for early June, as he no longer plans to concern himself with "political issues and problems of war."

Sihanouk, who had earlier said he would be traveling to Tokyo for the meeting, also said he is taking "a long leave of absence" from his position as leader of the three-faction Cambodian resistance government.

While saying Japan "fully understands" the prince's feelings of grievance over the plight of the Cambodian people, Watanabe said "the peace process is now in a crucial phase" and that Sihanouk can play a "decisive" role in promoting a dialogue among the Cambodian people.

The possibility of a Sihanouk-Hun Sen meeting in Tokyo was initially proposed during a visit here last month by Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan. Japan, anxious to raise its diplomatic profile, had made its first direct effort at mediating a Cambodian peace settlement. There had been hope that a ceasefire agreement would be worked out in Tokyo, to end the 11-year Cambodian conflict.

Foreign Minister Returns From East Europe

OW0605070690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0644 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama returned to Tokyo Sunday from a six-day visit to Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

Nakayama met with Czechoslovakian Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier in Prague Wednesday and with Yugoslavian Foreign Secretary Budimir Loncar in Belgrade Thursday and Friday.

Finance Minister Returns From New Delhi

OW0605104690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0934 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto returned home Sunday afternoon after attending the 23rd annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank [ADB] in New Delhi.

He arrived in the Indian capital last Wednesday to join the ADB meeting and hold bilateral talks with delegates from China and other countries.

Defense Agency Chief Returns From Travels

OW0605042690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0330 GMT
6 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—State Minister for Defense Yozo Ishikawa returned to Tokyo Sunday from a weeklong visit to Australia, Thailand, and Malaysia.

LDP Member Returns From Australia, New Zealand

OW0505050090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0234 GMT
5 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 5 (KYODO)—Liberal Democratic Party Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa returned home Saturday from an eight-day trip to Australia and New Zealand.

Mongolia

Further Reportage on P. Ochirbat's PRC Visit

Visit Termed 'Successful'

OW0805095790 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Head of Mongolian State, Mr. Ochirbat, has called his recent visit to China as successful. He said that his meetings with the Chinese leadership were held in an atmosphere of full understanding and displayed the identity of views on the fact that the Mongol-Chinese border must be a border of peace. He highlighted that the Chinese side, with understanding, approached Mongolia's striving to have an access to the sea. There was reached an understanding on cooperation in the development of permitting small enterprises in Mongolia. Furthermore, Mr. Ochirbat expressed the confidence that the Mongol-Chinese summit talks in Beijing will substantially promote the strengthening of friendship and cooperation between Mongolia and China.

Joint Communiqué Issued

OW0805110490 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 8 May 90

["Highlights" of joint Mongol-Chinese communiqué on the visit to China by Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural]

[Text] Mongolian and Chinese leaders informed each other of the internal situation in their countries and exchanged views on issues of further development of bilateral relations as well as some international problems of mutual interest, notes the communiqué.

During the visit, Mr. Ochirbat met with General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Jiang Zemin, Chairman of the People's Republic of China [title as heard] Yang Shangkun, and Premier of the State Council of China Li Peng.

The communiqué notes that leaders of Mongolia and China expressed complete satisfaction with the normalization of Mongol-Chinese relations. They unanimously noted that the present Mongol-Sino summit meeting opens up fine opportunities for further expanding the relations between the two countries, and steady development of these ties will meet the vital interests of Mongolian and Chinese peoples and promote the maintenance of peace and stability in Asia and the world over.

Mongolian and Chinese leaders have confirmed their resolve to further strengthen and develop friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries, relying on the 1960 Mongol-Sino Treaty of Friendship and Mutual Assistance as well on the principles of mutual respect of each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual nonaggression, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence, notes the document.

The sides were unanimous in the view that peace and development is the most urgent issue confronting our planet today. Mongolia and China will make active efforts for facilitating the development and prosperity and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, notes the communiqué.

It says that Chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural of Mongolia Ochirbat invited Chairman of the People's Republic of China Yang Shangkun and Premier of the State Council of China Li Peng to visit Mongolia at their convenience. The Chinese leaders, with gratitude, received the invitation.

That was the gist of the joint Mongol-Sino communiqué on the outcome of the China visit of Chairman of the People's Great Hural of Mongolia Ochirbat.

P. Ochirbat, G. Ochirbat To Visit USSR

OW0805093090 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural of Mongolia Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat and Chairman of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Gombojabyn Ochirbat will pay an official working visit to the Soviet Union in mid this May at the invitation of Soviet President Gorbachev.

Opposition Groups End Hobsgol Hunger Strike

OW0805101090 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] A group of hunger strikers in Moron, the administrative center of northern Mongolian province Hobsgol, has ceased the action following the appeal of the

Mongolian Democratic Association and the Mongolian Democratic Party leadership. According to the Mongolian Democratic Association and the Mongolian Democratic Party representatives, hunger strikes and sit-in demonstrations, except those in Darhan and Suhbaatar, have stopped.

They demanded an immediate meeting with the leadership of the Mongolian Democratic Association and the Mongolian Democratic Party.

The decision to cease hunger strikes was adopted by the Mongolian Democratic Association and the Mongolian Democratic Party after they signed a joint political protocol with the official authorities.

North Korea

South's 'Double-Dealing Attitude' Obstructs Talk

SK0705132490 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1100 GMT 7 May 90

[Telephone message from An Pyong-su, director of the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF), to Hong Song-chol, ROK minister of national unification, through a direct Red Cross telephone line on 7 May—read by announcer]

[Text] To Hong Song-chol, minister of the Unification Board of the Republic of Korea:

It is four months since the respected and beloved President Kim Il-song declared in his New Year's address an active reunification promotion formula for demolishing the concrete wall built in the southern area of the Military Demarcation Line and for realizing free travel and full-scale opening.

Proceeding from aspirations for discussing and pushing ahead with this overture together, we have since sent letters containing concrete proposals to your side's responsible figures on three occasions in the name of the joint meeting of government and political party representatives and the consultative meeting. And we have looked forward to an affirmative response to them.

It is, however, very regrettable that our efforts have not yet come to fruition, due to the rejective attitude of your side's authorities. The three reply letters from your side's prime minister have only disappointed us.

Expressing deep regret and concern over the insincere reply of your side's prime minister to our new proposal for reunification, I send this telephone message to you with my wishes for sound dialogue after today.

First of all, we think it necessary to note that the reply letters of your side's prime minister were not a proper answer to our proposal.

It is not in accordance with the rules that in response to our courteous proposal in the name of the joint meeting

of DPRK Government and political party representatives, your side's prime minister alone sent letters with no authorization and without agreement with anyone. Also, he replied to our side's prime minister without correctly distinguishing addressees to the letters in the name of the joint meeting of our side's government and political party representatives.

Your side must be well aware that our side's proposal was not set forth as a matter between the authorities in the North and the South from the beginning. This notwithstanding, your side's prime minister repeatedly sent his replies to our side's prime minister. This clearly proves that his act is a deliberate one, trying to lead the matter proposed by us in a different direction. The contents of the letters from your side's prime minister, which failed to give a sincere answer, deserve no passing note. Through the reply letters, we cannot help but be surprised at the deplorable attitude of your side's authorities toward the matter of dialogue and reunification.

First, your side's double-dealing attitude of saying one thing and acting another way while distorting the stark facts and slandering the other side, like a thief calling another a thief, makes us dubious about your side's morality and conscience. It is an irresponsible and rash attitude as the prime minister in charge of state affairs and a brazen act of mocking the nation and deceiving even his conscience to say that the concrete wall, the existence of which is a stark reality, does not exist and is fictitious; to say that despite the fact that anyone, even someone who is not a military specialist, can discern the concrete wall, that it is an antitank barrier; and furthermore to say that demolishing it is an act of disarming his side.

We cannot understand at all why your side does not respond to a joint investigation to objectively confirm the existence of the concrete wall if it does not exist as your side alleges.

When the world's people are already aware of the existence of the concrete wall, and furthermore, when its existence was clearly confirmed recently by an international fact-finding team, trying to deny its existence is nothing but a foolish act and futile attempt. Instead of only paying lip service to welcoming travel and opening, your side should show a genuine will for opening and reunification by honestly admitting the existence of the concrete wall and by expressing willingness to remove it.

If your side continues to avoid a joint investigation into the concrete wall and refuses to demolish the wall of division, we will be forced to take another appropriate measure [putugi tarun chokcholhan chochirul chwuihaji anulsu opkedoelkosimnida].

Second, we cannot but feel deep concern over your side's vague desire for reunification, seeing the unchanged attitude of your side which is still preoccupied with the confrontation concept of the cold war days. Your side's antidiologue and antireunification attitude constantly strains the situation by conducting even today the

"Team Spirit" joint military exercise, which began in the 1970's, while turning away from the demands of the times for opening a new phase in detente and reunification. Instead of daring to drive ripening dialogue into the state of suspension, you deliberately aggravate North-South confrontation even by contriving such a stereotyped fabrication as the so-called tunnel incident. This cannot be justified by anything, but deserves the denunciation of all fellow countrymen who desire peace and reunification.

Your side's attitude of responding to our reunification-oriented patriotic proposal with a war exercise and of challenging our proposal for removing the concrete wall with such a smear campaign as the tunnel incident cannot be interpreted otherwise than a mean act beyond common sense. If the situation goes on this way, we would be virtually unable to discuss with each other the future fate of the nation on the basis of one moral standard. And there would be no greater tragedy than this to us, who should discuss and solve the problem of the country's reunification.

Third, your side's self-opinionated attitude toward North-South talks means deviating from the universal principle of democracy and ignoring the role of the popular masses as the main forces of reunification. We attach proper significance to talks between authorities and do not rule them out. However, the problem of reunification is never a matter between those in power, but a matter of the entire nation. To successfully solve the problem, the authorities, political parties, groupings, and people of all other walks of life should take part in this work and their opinions should be taken into full consideration and accepted.

Your side's assertion that the method of a consultative meeting is unrealistic has no basis, but it is only an outcome of an self-opinionated way of thinking to exclude others in dialogue for reunification and to monopolize debate over reunification.

Our side has already declared that a North-South top-level meeting can be arranged within the framework of a political consultative meeting. Your side says that this kind of talks are possible and that kind not, while opposing the summit talks to the political consultative meeting. This can only be construed to show that your side has virtually no intention of holding either the consultative meeting or the summit talks.

The question of resuming the suspended dialogue as demanded by your side depends on the attitude of your side. If the suspended dialogue disappoints our fellow countrymen again even though it is resumed, the resumption of dialogue is of no significance.

If your side genuinely approaches the question of dialogue and reunification with a correct stand and attitude, there will be no difficulty in resuming the suspended dialogue.

[Signed] An Pyong-su, director of CPRF Secretariat

[Dated] 7 May 1990

Defector Calls North 'True Bosom' for 'Nation'

SK0605091890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0838 GMT
6 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—Chong Kyu-chin, director of the board of the Hwanam Chemical Company, Ltd. in Seoul, who had come over to the northern half of Korea went round Kaesong Municipality some time ago and said the North is the true bosom for all our nation.

Kaesong, once an insignificant consumer city, has rapidly developed into a modern light industrial city in the embrace of the DPRK, he said, and added: This is a fruition of the wise leadership of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il.

After visiting the Kaesong garment factory he expressed admiration at the fact that the factory has turned into a streamlined light industrial factory and it is kept very clean.

I am deeply moved by the deep loving care of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il who provide women workers with such excellent working conditions and shape politics for the people, he said.

He joined the working people in the city in celebrating the centenary of May Day and said that the society of the North is a genuine welfare society where the most superior socialist system has been established, the workers and peasants are masters of the country, all people enjoy equal rights and freedom to the full and free education and medical services are in force and taxation was abolished.

After seeing the concrete wall built in the area South of the Military Demarcation Line, he said that though the Yankees and the No Tae-u group built the high concrete wall to divide our country into two parts permanently, they cannot break the strength of our nation aspiring after reunification.

I will devote myself to bring earlier the day of national reunification when the entire fellow countrymen in the North and the South will lead a happy life under the care of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il.

Chonminnyon To Hold Mass Rallies 9-20 May

SK0605082690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0804 GMT
6 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—The Coalition for National Democratic Movement (Chonminnyon) held an emergency meeting of its Central Executive Committee on May 3 and branded the present "crisis" created in South Korea as an outcome of the "suppression of the labour movement" by the "government"

authorities and of their "plot to bring the broadcasting service under their control," according to a report.

At the meeting Chonminnyon urged the renunciation of the scheduled inauguration of the anti-democratic, anti-popular "Democratic Liberal Party," the holding of general elections and guarantee of the "three rights of labour and freedom of the press."

It announced that it would hold mass rallies including a forum on the situation across South Korea from the 9th to the 20th of May in league with the opposition parties and hold a ceremony for declaring the May struggle on May 16.

Christian Committee Formed in South Aids Labor

*SK0605091290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0833 GMT
6 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—12 Christian organizations of South Korea including the Council of Christian Churches and the Alliance of the Christian Social Movement on May 4 formed the Christian Measure Committee for Checking the Suppression of the Labour Movement and declared support to the labour movement, according to a report.

In an inaugural prospectus of the committee published that day they said the course of the brutal crackdown on the strike of workers at the Hyundai Heavy Industries and the sit-in of unionists of the "Korea Broadcasting System" (KBS) by large police force showed "a wholesale suppression of the labour movement by the regime of the Democratic Liberal Party."

They evinced their resolution to extend positive solidarity to the workers of the Hyundai Heavy Industries and the unionists of the "KBS" in their protests.

Meanwhile, the Christian Measure Committee for Checking the Suppression of the Labour Movement reportedly organized a fact-finding team with Rev. Pak Hyong-kyu and other religious figures and sent them to Ulsan to conduct investigation activities as to the incident at the Hyundai Heavy Industries.

Press Unions Declare 'All-Out Boycott'

*SK0705054390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0516 GMT
7 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—The emergency joint measure committee of the "National Federation of Press Unions" (Onnonyon) consisting of chairmen of 13 press unions held a meeting on May 4 and vowed to expand the struggle of solidarity with the strike of "KBS" employees, according to a report.

It declared that it would stage an all-out boycott at leading newspapers and news agency of South Korea in case the demands of "KBS" employees including the resignation of the "Government"-installed president is not met till May 8.

"KBS" delegates of section chief, director and head level called on the puppet minister of justice and procurator-general on the same day and demanded a stop to the suppression of the leading members of the "KBS" emergency measure committee.

The Democratic Party which is emerging a new opposition party called for the immediate release of all those arrested, condemning the fascist clique's suppression of "KBS" unionists and Hyundai heavy industries strikers.

Students affiliated with the "Chungbuk University special committee of struggle to smash the Democratic Liberal Party" threw fire bottles and stones at cars on view of the Chongju business office of Hyundai Motors.

The South Korean Journalists Association in a statement May 4 demanded that Kwon Chong-tal, one of the remnants of the "Fifth Republic" and executor of fascist suppression of the press, be made to take the witness stand at a hearing of the press and be investigated and punished.

Union Condemns 'Police Force'

*SK0705054590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0521 GMT
7 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—The "Christian Radio" trade union distributed May 5 among Seoul citizens some 10,000 copies of "A Writing to People" condemning the fascist clique's dispatch of police force into the "KBS [Korean Broadcasting System]" and "MBC [Munhwa Broadcasting Corp]" and plot to control broadcasting, according to a report.

The trade union in the literature said that the "KBS" situation proceeded not from the contradictions between the company and the trade union demanding the resignation of President So Ki-won but from the authorities' reckless plot to seek the structural reorganisation of broadcasting and control it. The trade union demanded that the government-installed president of the "KBS" as well as the "Minister of Information" who has led the reorganisation of broadcasting circle step down.

Daily Denounces Police Intrusion Into Hospital

*SK0705061990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0529 GMT
7 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland in Information No. 567 of its secretariat Sunday denounces the crime of the South Korean fascist clique in hurling a large police force even into a hospital mortuary to crack down on workers who were on a sit-in strike guarding the body of their co-worker who had burned himself to death.

The fascist clique encircled the Changwon Hospital in South Kyongsang Province with a police force more than 1,000 strong and sent about 300 policemen into the

mortuary at dawn on May 4, took to the police all the 149 workers in their sit-in and whisked off the body to another place.

The bloody suppression and arrest of the workers who were guarding the body of the young man Yi Yong-il are a clear proof showing to what extent the No Tae-u group has gone today in its fascist arbitrariness after setting up the structure of one-party dictatorship of the "Democratic Liberal Party" (DLP) and declaring even an "emergency system", the information says, and continues: this act committed by the No Tae-u group, seized with fear in face of the body of a worker, tells that the present "DLP regime" is a truculent fascist group dwarfing the dictatorship of the "Fifth Republic".

The South Korean puppets should know that their desperate attempt to prop up their remaining days will result in expanding the anti-"government", anti-"DLP" struggle of the people into a greater mass resistance and precipitating their own death.

Dailies Deride Anti-Union 'Terrorism' in South

SK0805045090 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON today come out with commentaries assailing the No Tae-u fascist clique for the bloody assaults they committed against the unionists of the South Korean "Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation" (MBC) and those concerned with the emergency measure committee of the "Korea Broadcasting System" (KBS) by hurling some 150 police into the head office of "MBC."

The news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says:

The No group's attack on "MBC" following two surprise attacks on "KBS" is a premeditated act of white terrorism for destroying the progressive press and bringing it under its control and a ruthless fascist outrage against the people's desire for independence, democracy and reunification.

Terrified at the people's anti-U.S., anti-dictatorship sentiments for national reunification which is daily gaining strength on the threshold of the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising, the No group is bent on raising a more bloody whirlwind of repression, throwing off even the false mask of "democracy."

The No group placed the puppet cabinet under "an emergency system" and the police force under "a round-the-clock emergency duty system." This is a de facto declaration of "a martial law" designed to suppress the just action of students, workers and pressmen at the point of the bayonet and defuse the crisis of its fascist rule now at the end of its tether.

The current developments in South Korea show that the No group is seeking a way out of the crisis in causing the second and third Kwangju bloodbaths.

The No group must refrain from the criminal "scorched-earth" operations against the democratic forces and immediately release all the illegally arrested people.

A news analyst of MINJU CHOSON says it is a last-ditch effort in face of a crisis that the No group is brutally cracking down on men of the press, brandishing the blood-stained sword.

Break-in at DLP Headquarters in South Noted

SK0805050090 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—A group of students seized the headquarters of the "Democratic Liberal Party" [DLP] in Seoul Monday [7 May] afternoon, breaking through a strict police cordon, when the anti-"DLP" sentiments were growing among the South Korean people, a foreign news report from Seoul said.

They barricaded themselves inside a third-floor office of the headquarters, broke the office windows and fought off riot police, shouting "down with No Tae-u."

This incident occurred when the traitor No Tae-u was uttering words of threat and appeasement over television and right after the puppet police headquarters issued a repressive order to step up guards in connection with the "inaugural convention of the DLP" to be held Wednesday.

The students shattered the windshields of some cars in an outdoor parking lot, smashed some furniture in the party offices and threw firebombs at police.

They scattered leaflets demanding the ouster of U.S. Ambassador Gregg, charging that Gregg devised the three-party merger.

About 2,500 students staged anti-"DLP" demonstrations in Kwangju and five other local cities.

Students in Wonju, South Korean Kangwon Province, attacked the city chapter of the "DLP."

Meanwhile, the People's Alliance for Crushing the "DLP" and Achieving People's Vital Rights, an umbrella alliance of 17 dissident groups including "Chondaehyop" [National Council of University Student Representatives] and "Chonminryon" [National Democratic Alliance of Korea] issued a statement Monday, announcing "new nationwide protests demanding that the "DLP" be disbanded and urging citizens to join them.

Week for Kwangju Protests Set Aside in South

SK0805111590 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—The "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop) of south Korea declared that it would launch large-scale

anti-"government" protests on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju people's resistance, according to a report.

It set the period from the 14th to the 20th of May as a week for succeeding the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju resistance, and announced that it would stage anti-"government" protests such as the occupation of puppet organs and "Democratic Liberal Party" (DLP) buildings from this week.

It decided to let all university campuses stay away from classes and massively participate in an anti-"DLP" people's rally, on the 9th of May, the day of inauguration of the "DLP".

It also decided to rally more than 100,000 students affiliated with it in Kwangju next week to hold on a large scale a memorial service and a ceremony marking the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju resistance at the Mangwoldong Cemetery.

Chondaehyop announced that campuses would separately hold "rallies for determinedly checking the inaugural convention of the DLP" and "funerals for the DLP" from May 7 and incite an atmosphere of the anti-"DLP" struggle by wearing black ribbons symbolic of the death of the "DLP," according to another report.

Informed of this, the fascist clique issued repressive orders to the police and are running amuck in an effort to blockade the protests of Chondaehyop at the initial stage.

45th Anniversary of Soviet War Victory Marked

Greetings Sent to Gorbachev

SK0805104490 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the central committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on May 8 sent a message of greetings to Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

The message says:

The Soviet people and Army, under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, defended their Soviet motherland with honor, demonstrated the invincibility of the socialist system and saved many peoples from the danger of fascist enslavement by routing the fascist aggressors through the display of mass heroism, bearing the brunt of the Second World War.

Through their arduous post-war struggle, the Soviet people rapidly rehabilitated the devastated national economy and successfully carried out a series of five-year plans.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I sincerely wish you and your people greater success in the future work for the prosperity of the Soviet Union and world peace and security.

I believe that the friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean and Soviet peoples with a long historical tradition will grow stronger and develop with each passing day.

News Conference Held at Embassy

SK0805105290 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—A press conference was held today at the Soviet Embassy here on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

Speaking at the conference, Charge d'Affaires ad Interim of the Soviet Embassy Boris Morozov said that the historical victory of the Soviet Union in the Great Patriotic War convincingly proved the vitality of the socialist system and made a great contribution to carrying out the cardinal task of the anti-Hitler alliance in the Second World War.

Touching upon the Soviet-Korean relations of friendship and cooperation, he said that the Korean people's struggle to reunify the country in a peaceful way and ease the tension on the Korean peninsula is fully supported in the Soviet Union.

He answered questions put by reporters.

Meeting at Steel Complex

SK0704222090 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT*
7 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—A meeting of the Kim Chaek iron and steel complex was held today in Chongjin to mark the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

Invited there were the Soviet consul general in Chongjin and officials of his consulate general and Soviet visitors staying there.

Speeches were exchanged at the meeting.

The participants saw a Soviet feature film.

Film Shown at House of Culture

SK0704223490 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1519 GMT*
7 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—A film show was held today at the Chollima House of Culture on the

occasion of the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

Invited there were Charge d'Affaires ad Interim Boris Morozov and officials of the Soviet Embassy here.

Present at the film show were O Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, O Kil-pang, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society, other officials concerned and working people in the city.

The participants saw a Soviet feature film.

Soviet Films Open in Theaters

SK0805110190 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—A Soviet film week opened in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

The opening ceremony was held at the Pyongyang International Cinema House today.

Present on the occasion were Kim Chong-ho, vice-minister of culture and art, other officials concerned and working people in the city.

Invited there were officials of the Soviet Embassy here and the visiting Soviet movie delegation.

Speeches were exchanged at the ceremony.

The participants saw a Soviet feature film.

Soviet films are showing at cinema houses in Pyongyang and local areas during the film week.

KPA Soldiers' Meeting Held

SK0805110090 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—A soldiers meeting was held today in the unit of the Korean People's Army to which Comrade Ok Pong-in belongs on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War.

Gen. Kim Kwang-chin of the Korean People's Army was present at the meeting and Charge d'Affaires ad Interim Boris Morozov and the military attache of the Soviet Embassy here were invited to it.

Speeches were exchanged at the meeting.

'Flying Corps' on Goodwill Visit to Soviet Union

SK0805052990 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0504 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (KCNA)—A flying corps of the air force of the Korean People's Army (KPA) headed by

Lieutenant General Hong Song-yul left for an official goodwill visit to the Soviet Union today at the invitation of the Ministry of Defence of the Soviet Union.

It was seen off by Lieutenant General of the KPA Chong Kyu-ham and the military attache of the Soviet Embassy here.

Continued U.S. Military Aerial Exercises Noted

SK0805103790 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 8 (kcna)—The U.S. imperialists on May 5 sent formations of "A-6" assault planes belonging to the U.S. 7th fleet to South Korea to stage a joint air strike exercise in coordination with "F-16" fighter-bombers of the U.S. 7th Airforce based in South Korea simulating a surprise attack on targets in the operational and tactical depths of the Northern half of Korea in the event of "contingency", according to military sources.

Between 09:00 and 21:00 May 3, they brought formations of fighter-bombers, assault planes, VTOL planes, antisubmarine patrol planes, electronic jamming planes such as "F-16," "A-6," "AV-8," "P-3" and "EA-6" into South Korea from their bases in Japan and let them fly in an unbroken chain above Nyongwol and Pyongchang areas in aerial military exercises against the North under different names.

From around 10:00 to 18:00 May 4 they staged an aerial military exercise aimed at a forestalling attack on targets in the tactical depth and coastal areas of the DPRK by sending formations of "F-16" fighter-bombers and "A-6" assault planes to the sky above South Korea from their overseas bases.

In two days alone from May 5 to 6 the South Korean puppets massively mobilized motorized infantry units, tanks, armoured vehicles and artillery units of the puppet army in staging vicious mobile deployment and attack exercises simulating their invasion of the North in areas near the Military Demarcation Line.

These daily intensified provocative maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets clearly prove that the threat of invasion on the Korean peninsula is coming from the South.

Japan's 'Hostile Policy' to DPRK Condemned

SK0805103290 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT*
8 May 90

[Text] Tokyo May 7 (KNS-KCNA)—We demand that the Japanese government renounce its hostile policy toward the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and guarantee democratic national rights to the Korean citizens in Japan, declared the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee in a statement May 7

protesting the brutal crackdown of Japanese police authorities on the Tokyo Korean middle and high school and Chongnyon.

According to the statement, the Japanese police authorities on May 6 mobilized more than 100 policemen including a mobile squad and forced an illegal search at the Tokyo Korean Middle and High School. On the same day, they drove scores of policemen into the Shinjuku branch office of Chongnyon in Tokyo and committed an illegal search, confiscating some 49 pieces of documents. And they searched a clinic of life for Koreans in Tokyo and five other offices, arresting three Koreans.

The barbaric acts in driving armed police into an inviolable school for national education of the Korean citizens in Japan and shutting down its gate and violently occupying it and in searching the Shinjuku branch office of Chongnyon for a political purpose and confiscating many pieces of documents unrelated with the current affairs, are a vicious challenge to Chongnyon greeting the 35th anniversary of its formation and part of the open hostile policy toward the DPRK, the statement noted, and continued:

To commit such unreasonable suppression by abusing the notorious "Foreigners' Registration Law" openly revealed once again their political intention as regards the "treatment" of the Koreans in Japan.

The Japanese authorities' unwarrantable suppression of Chongnyon with the approach of No Tae-u's trip to Japan is motivated by a sinister political purpose to strengthen tieup with the No Tae-u clique and further intensify the hostile act against the DPRK and Chongnyon and the policy of national division and assimilation toward the Koreans in Japan.

We, representing the will of the entire Koreans in Japan, sharply condemn with bitter national resentment the illegal suppression by the Japanese authorities.

We strongly demand that the Japanese authorities admit the mistake of this suppression and the abuse of government power and refrain from repeating such suppression.

Meanwhile, an emergency meeting of parents of the pupils of the Tokyo Korean Middle and High School took place on the same day to protest the violence of the Japanese police authorities.

Representatives of the Tokyo Metropolitan Headquarters of Chongnyon called at the Japanese police agency and handed over to it a letter of protest to the Japan police authorities.

Japan Socialist Party Lawmaker Visits DPRK

Arrives in Pyongyang 4 May

SK0405221090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1523 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—Hajime Fukada, member of the House of Councillors, member of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party [JSP] and director of its national movement department, arrived in Pyongyang Friday.

He was met at the airport by Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Meets With WPK Leaders

SK0705222490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—Ho dam, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, today met and conversed in a friendly atmosphere with Hajime Fukada, member of the house of Councillors, member of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party and director of its National Movement Department.

Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the wpk Central Committee, was present on the occasion.

Vice-President Pak Song-chol Tours Africa

Delegation Visits Angola

SK0505110490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1048 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Talks were held between party and government delegations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Angola in Luanda on May 3.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were the members of the delegation led by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and Korean ambassador to Angola and on the Angolan side were Pedro de Castro van-Dunem, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola-Workers' Party and minister of foreign relations, and other officials concerned.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Meets With Angolan President

SK0605090290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0824 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—The leader, the party and the people are united in one body in building

socialism in Korea, said Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Workers' Party and President of Angola, when he met with a Korean party and Government delegation led by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, on May 3.

Unity is the greatest victory won by the Korean people and the source of the might of Korea, he added.

The president expressed satisfaction over the favorable development of the friendly and cooperative relations between Angola and Korea.

Friendship Order Awarded

*SK0605090590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0826 GMT
6 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—Friendship Order First Class of Korea was awarded with a due ceremony to Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, in Luanda on May 3.

After receiving the order from head of a Korean party and government delegation Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-President, the president said that the friendship order was an expression of the Korean people's friendship and solidarity with the Angolan people and himself.

He stressed that he would further strengthen and develop the friendly and cooperative relations between Angola and Korea and fully support the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

Delegation Visits Botswana

*SK0505050790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0451 GMT
5 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Talks between government delegations of Korea and Botswana were held in Gaborone on April 30.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were the members of the government delegation headed by Vice-President Pak Song-chol visiting the country and on the opposite side were Vice-President P.S. Mmusi, the minister of external trade, the minister of finance and other officials concerned. The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Meets Botswanan President

*SK0505222190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT
5 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Botswana hopes for a peaceful reunification of Korea and expresses support for the Korean people's struggle to put an end to the division of the country and achieve its reunification, declared Botswana President Q. K. J. Masire on May 1,

when he met the DPRK Government delegation led by Vice-President Pak Song-chol.

He highly appreciated the successes made by the Korean people in economic construction under the wise guidance of the respected His Excellency President Kim Il-song, the great leader.

He expressed satisfaction over the favourable development of the friendly and cooperative relations between Botswana and Korea.

Pak Song-chol Delegation Returns

*SK0705103890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT
7 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 7 (KCNA)—Vice-President Pak Song-chol returned home today after participating in the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the independence of Zimbabwe as a special envoy of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

He was met at the airport by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-Pinister of Foreign Affairs Yi In-kyu, Ethiopian Ambassador to Korea Fisseha Geda and an official of the Chinese Embassy here.

Pak Song-chol visited Mozambique, Zambia and Angola at the head of a Korean party and Government delegation and Botswana at the head of a Korean Government delegation.

Kim Il-song Replies to Foreign Leaders

*SK0605085690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0814 GMT
6 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent messages to foreign party and state leaders in reply to their messages of greetings sent to him on his birthday.

He sent reply messages to Janez Drnovsek, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Kampuchea; Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan; Suharto, president of the Republic of Indonesia; Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great September First Revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah; Ilyas al-Hirawi, president of the Republic of Lebanon; Muhammad 'Abd-al-'Aziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and secretary general of the Polisario Front; 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, president of the Command Council of the National Salvation Revolution of the Republic of the Sudan; Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic; Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation; Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of the Republic of Tunisia; Chadli Bendjedid, president of the

Algerian Democratic and People's Republic; King Husayn, the First of the Kingdom of Hashemite Jordan; Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt; 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces and general secretary of the General People's Congress of the Yemen Arab Republic; Jerry John Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional National Defence Council of the Republic of Ghana; Lansana Conte, president of the Military Committee of National Redressment and president and head of State of the Republic of Guinea; Ibrahim B. Babangida, president and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; Didier Ratsiraka, president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar; Moussa Traore, general secretary of the Malian People's Democratic Union and president of the Republic of Mali; Joaquim Alberto Chissano, president of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique; Q.K.J. Masire, president of the Republic of Botswana; Blaise Compaore, chairman of the People's Front and head of State and Government of Burkina Faso; Manuel Pinto da Costa, chairman of the Liberation Movement of Sao Tome and Principe and president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe; Mohamed Siad Barre, president of the Somali Democratic Republic; France Albert Rene, president of the Republic of Seychelles; Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and founder-chairman of the Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea; Gnassingbe Eyadema, president-founder of the Togolese People's Rally and president of the Republic of Togo; Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Workers' Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola; Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia and president and commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; H. Desmond Hoyte, president of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana; Erskine Sandiford, prime minister of Barbados; and Vincent Tabone, president of the Republic of Malta.

In his reply messages President Kim Il-song expressed deep thanks for their warm felicitations and wishes on his birthday and expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the DPRK and the above-mentioned countries would grow stronger and develop.

Sports Games Held To Commemorate May Day

*SK0405110990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT
4 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—National sports games of workers opened here on the occasion of the centenary of May Day, the international holiday of the workers all over the world.

More than 800 men and women players selected from all provinces will compete in field and track, ball games, national sports, defence sports and other events.

Its opening ceremony was held at the May Day Stadium Friday [4 May].

Attending there were Chong Chun-ki, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council, and others.

The sports games will continue till May 6.

Meetings of Young Activists, Students Held

*SK0405104190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT
4 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 4 (KCNA)—Meetings of young activists and meetings of youths and students have been held in different parts of the country to carry through the tasks set forth in the congratulatory message of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the National Conference of Young Activists and in response to the appeal of the conference addressed to the members of the League of Socialist Working Youth and other youths all over the country.

At the meetings of young activists the reporters and speakers stressed that the National Conference of Young Activists held in Pyongyang some time ago strikingly demonstrated the proud looks and firm will of the dependable reserve force of the party and heirs to the revolution who are unremittingly struggling for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of *chuche*, united in one mind around the party and the leader, and greatly inspired the members of the LSWYK and other young people to discharge their honorable mission as the youth vanguard of the Workers' Party of Korea.

They vowed to play the role of vanguard and shock brigade in the grand march of socialism in the 90s.

The meetings adopted resolutions.

At the meetings of youths and students the speakers renewed their determination to repay with loyalty the deep trust and expectation shown by the great leader President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, and said that they would be creators of feats and young heroes in the new general onward movement by carrying through the tasks set forth in the congratulatory message of the WPK Central Committee and effect new innovations in their study.

Anniversary of Karl Marx's Birth Marked

*SK0505112290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056 GMT
5 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate editorial articles to the 172nd birth anniversary of Karl Marx, an outstanding leader of the international working class and the founder of the theory of scientific communism.

NODONG SINMUN says:

Marx was a prominent thinker and theoretician, a great revolutionary who dedicated his whole life to the sacred cause of the freedom and liberation of the international working class and the popular masses.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has said:

"Progressive mankind will remember for ever Marx's brilliant career and great services to the sacred revolutionary cause for the working class and other working people."

The greatest exploit performed by Marx for mankind was that he founded Marxism to provide the working class with a powerful weapon for their liberation struggle.

The foundation of Marxism was a death knell announcing the downfall of capitalism and a revolutionary turn in the development of human thought.

Marx clarified the principles of dialectical and historical materialism, advanced the theory of surplus value, the basic economic law of capitalism, proved the inevitability of the downfall of capitalism and the triumph of communism, and turned socialism from utopia into science.

Thanks to the foundation of Marxism, the working class and other labouring masses could have a scientific world outlook and strategy and tactics and turn out dynamically in the revolutionary struggle for the building of a new bright society.

Marx not only provided the working class and other oppressed working masses with a weapon for their liberation struggle but also led their revolutionary struggle through his practical activities. He elucidated the need to form a vanguard detachment of the working class in its revolutionary struggle, exerted great efforts for the building of a party and made strenuous efforts to cement the unity and solidarity of the international working class.

His activities proved the precious truth that the leader plays a decisive role in the revolutionary movement of the working class.

Long strides have been made in historical progress since Marx's days. Socialism has emerged victorious in different countries through the struggle of communists and revolutionary peoples against all manner of domination and subjugation and for chajusong.

However, the people's cause of chajusong is now facing a grave challenge of imperialists. They are making desperate efforts to undermine socialism, the bulwark of peace and progress, and again put the noose of exploitation and subjugation around the neck of the people advancing along the road of independence. They are trying hard to disarm the people under the slogan of "peace" and "detente", intensifying aggression on those countries following the road of independence and progress and resorting to undisguised intervention and subjugation against other countries.

The prevailing situation demands that the world revolutionary people adhere to the principle of anti-imperialist independence, the principle of socialism against the imperialists' manoeuvres and resolutely fight to pave the way for the future of mankind with indomitable fighting spirit and confidence.

Invincible is the revolutionary cause of the working class pioneered by Marx.

Chuche Idea Praised as Source of Faith

SK0605092790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0854 GMT
6 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Sunday comes out with an article entitled "Chuche Idea Is the Source That Makes Our People Live and Struggle With Revolutionary Faith".

Although the revolution has advanced far and the generation changed, our people's revolutionary faith is always unshakable and daily grows stronger, the author of the article says, and continues:

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"Only when one is firmly armed with the chuche idea and advances under its banner, would it be possible to emerge victorious in the revolution and construction, surmounting all difficulties and trials. This is the conviction which our people have acquired through the history of revolutionary struggle spanning over half a century."

The chuche idea gives our people strong revolutionary faith, above all, because it provides a correct world outlook for hewing the destiny of man.

The philosophical world outlook of chuche is the man-centred world outlook.

It expounds that man holds the position of master in the world, the world is an object of transformation by man and the people's strength plays a decisive role in transforming and changing the world. Thus it makes it clear that the destiny of man is not decided by any mysterious entity but by man himself and that man is master of his destiny and has the strength enough to decide his destiny.

In this way the chuche idea gives a sturdy mental main stay whereby one believes in the popular masses. Possessed of the chuche idea, our people have an unshakable faith in themselves.

The chuche idea gives our people a strong revolutionary faith also because it provides a correct theory and method of shaping their destiny. The chuche idea indicates the theory and strategy and tactics of the building of socialism and communism, the theory and method of guiding the masses.

It is a brilliant feat of the chuche-based method of leadership that it consummated all questions in the leadership of the masses such as the system and principle of mass leadership and work method. With this, the chuche idea has become a perfect guiding idea indicating even the method of mass leadership.

Possessed of the chuche-based leadership method, our people have more deeply realized the flawlessness and greatness of the chuche idea and deepened their faith in believing and following the chuche idea.

The chuche idea gives our people a strong revolutionary faith also because the faith is based on the superiority of our socialist system embodying the chuche idea.

The superiority of our socialist system makes our people more firmly believe in the greatness and truth of the chuche idea and its invincible vitality and deepen their faith that the communist paradise where chajusong is completely realized would be built successfully when the chuche idea is carried into practice.

The chuche idea is, indeed, a great idea providing our people with a definite prospect and conviction in carving out their destiny and the conviction of the victory of socialism.

Editorial Calls for Intensifying Education

*SK0705101990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT
7 May 90*

[Text] Pongyang May 7 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today editorially calls for intensifying education through revolutionary relics.

The editorial says:

Education in revolutionary traditions is of great importance in training people to be chuche-type revolutionaries.

What is important here is education through revolutionary museums and revolutionary slogans written on trees.

The revolutionary relics are historical evidences of the glorious revolutionary traditions of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The revolutionary relics preserved in the revolutionary museums nationwide and revolutionary slogan written on trees reflect the history of the WPK with vivid facts and materials.

They help people deeply imbue themselves with the revolutionary traditions and firmly establish a revolutionary outlook on the leader.

Visit to the revolutionary sites gives people a better understanding of historical facts about the greatness of the party and the leader.

The revolutionary museums and sites are centres of education in revolutionary traditions. It is the consistent policy of the WPK to deepen this education at these centres.

Education through visits there is part of education in revolutionary traditions.

These visits should be organized in accordance with the level and characters of people. Main emphasis here should be put on bringing home to them how our revolution has emerged victorious and where our party struck roots before growing strong as it is today.

South Korea

Party Leaders Agree to Parliamentary System

*SK0804014390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0125 GMT
8 May 90*

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (OANA-YONHAP)—The three co-leaders of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) agreed earlier this year to revise the South Korean Constitution to replace the presidential system of government with a parliamentary cabinet system, a top DLP leader said Monday. The agreement came in negotiations between President No Tae-u, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil on a merger of their parties to create the DLP in February, he said. Pak Tae-chun, who represents No in the DLP troika, also told reporters Monday that the three had agreed to seek a switch to a parliamentary system.

The ruling party hinted earlier in the day that it might seek to revise the Constitution in favor of a parliamentary system when it amended the party platform in an executive committee meeting. Article 1 of the revised party platform reads: "We...will realize parliamentary democracy in which the parliament and the cabinet should be jointly responsible to the people." This is seen as indicating the DLP's intention to seek the parliamentary system. Pak met with the three party leaders at the presidential residence in the evening, but it is not known if revision of the Constitution was discussed. Kim Yong-sam was said to have given No a report on revision of the party platform.

No Tae-u, Top Leaders Confer on 'Difficulties'

*SK0705115890 Seoul YONHAP in English 1121 GMT
7 May 90*

[Text] Seoul, May 7 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u had a meeting Monday with three other top leaders of the Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) and discussed how the ruling party would support the government's bid to overcome the difficulties facing the country.

Three co-leaders of the party—Kim Yong-sam, Kim Chong-pil and Pak Tae-chun—gave "complete" assent to what No pledged to do for the restoration of political, economic and social stability in his special statement

earlier that day and agreed on the need for the ruling party to positively cooperate with the government in its effort to solve pressing domestic problems.

Presidential Spokesman Yi Su-chung said that the four leaders reached an agreement that No's statement has provided a "turning point" of the nation's bid to overcome the political, economic and social difficulties facing the country.

The top DLP leaders shared a view that any acts of factional struggle inside the party should not be tolerated around and after the party's national convention slated for Wednesday, Yi said. The leaders agreed on the need to cement the basis of national stability by pursuing consistent reforms in the political, economic and social sectors, Yi added.

They also reaffirmed the need to take up stern measures to discourage the large enterprizes from owning excessive amounts of real estate and force them to dispose of unneeded land they own. The ruling party leaders decided to work out programs to revitalize the manufacturing industries and exports, according to Yi.

Government Orders Companies To Sell Excess Land

SK0805024690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0226 GMT
8 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (YONHAP)—South Korean conglomerates must sell off their idle land within six months under a tough package of measures to wipe out real estate speculation announced by the government Tuesday [8 May]. They are also banned from buying real estate for other than production purposes for one year, until next June.

Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun and other economic cabinet ministers also used the joint news conference to declare their determination to root out speculation and curb inflation. Raging inflation, sagging exports and heated speculation in land constitute a national crisis, they said.

Under the measures, Korea's 49 business groups must sell their nonbusiness purpose land and buildings within six months.

The state-run Sungup Corp. will help them dispose of their property and Korea Land Development Corp. will buy it if no other buyers can be found "to facilitate the transactions," according to the announcement.

The government will screen the real estate holdings of Korea's five largest conglomerates—Samsung, Hyundai, Daewoo, Hanjin and Lucky-Goldstar—in May and the other 44 in June, designating them either business purpose or nonbusiness purpose. The steps are designed to cool the real estate market and to respond to public criticism of big businesses for profiting from investment in real estate rather than production, thus fanning the heated hunt for land across the nation.

The government also banned banks and other financial institutions from accepting nonbusiness real estate, luxurious properties or private land liable for excessive land gain taxes as collateral on loans. Real estate registered under a false name will be banned as collateral and must be correctly registered within three months. The penalty for noncompliance will be forced sale of the land or heavy donation taxes.

The Land Development Corp. will purchase housing land in exchange for land bonds at official appraisal prices.

Sungup, which is a government agency specializing in public property disposal, will put real estate unsuitable for housing up for auction.

Big businesses that fail to sell their land within six months will not be allowed to buy real estate or apply for loans. Regulations on real estate for nonbusiness purposes will be revised effective Jan. 1 next year to cover sports and leisure facilities owned by conglomerates. Permission was revoked for the establishment of 417 branch offices by banks, securities and insurance companies. A stricter standard on financial institutions' branch offices will be drawn up to stop investment in real estate on the pretext of opening a new office.

Editorial Views No's 7 May Special Statement

SK0805013790 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 8 May 90 p 6

[Editorial: "No's Special Statement"]

[Text] President No Tae-u vowed to tackle the current difficulties in his special statement delivered on nationwide radio-television networks yesterday. Compared with his special statements in the past, Monday's address was a most strongly worded one expressing his firm determination.

President No came out with a late apology to the nation, accepting government responsibility for the current plight that has been referred to as a total crisis. At the same time, his pledge to resolve the present political, economic and social difficulties by the end of this year was encouraging.

Now that No's resolution to cope with the dismal realities facing the nation has been made, the question is how to translate his words into action. Regrettably, some of No's crucial promises to the people in the past have not materialized for one reason or another.

He pointed out appropriately that the new ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] has disappointed the general public in the course of its formation due to factional bickering among its heterogeneous political elements. The President vowed to exert maximum efforts to dispel the public distrust in the government by showing the people a new image of intra-party unity.

The presidential statement was closely followed by the joint pledge of the President and the two co-leaders of the governing party—Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil—after a meeting at Chongwadae in the afternoon. Thus, the government and the DLP leadership have taken a fresh start for the creation of a new political order.

Besides the aforesaid political aspect, President No specially mentioned the country's economic difficulties characterized by soaring price hikes, abrupt rises in rents paid by ordinary citizens, a stock price plunge and labor disturbances.

Viewing that the current plight has been brought on by a complex of political, economic and social reasons, No, notwithstanding, aired the optimistic view that the national situation will take a turn for better, if the government, businessmen and the general public exert joint efforts to cope with the situation.

The Chief Executive put forward four measures to address the current pinch, which he billed as serious but short of a crisis: (1) the strict enforcement of law and maintenance of social order, (2) the termination of speculation in real estate, (3) counter-steps against illegal or politically-motivated labor activities and (4) the government's positive support of manufacturing industries.

The four steps are basically not new. Yet, No's manifestation of his strong intention to uproot speculative investment in real estate, and in land in particular, by business tycoons is worth attention. And his statement made it clear the government position is that the conglomerates are the main "culprits" for the rampant speculation.

No plainly called upon large businesses, banks and other financial institutions to dispose of the real estate in their possession for speculative purposes, with a strong warning that if they fail to comply with the demand, the government will take strong action to force them to do so.

The President's firm pledge may well be received as a more than symbolic one, if practical steps follow. The government and the ruling party, this time, must not repeat the failures of their anti-speculation campaign that has ended with vociferous slogans.

The President was candid enough to admit that the government's inconsistent policies were also responsible for the current impasse. But it is yet to be seen if his special statement will not turn out to be another fiasco that will bring about a real crisis to the nation.

No's appeal for unsparing cooperation from the people as a whole is appropriate at this juncture. The recovery of public trust in the government hinges upon the degree to which the government accomplishes the staggering task now incumbent upon it. Even cancelling his scheduled visits to Canada, the United States and Mexico, the President is seen to be tackling the issues seriously and

we conclude he did well to come to the front for the solution of the current bottleneck at this point in time.

PPD Issues Statement on 'Critical Situation'

SK0804015590 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
8 May 90 p 2

[Text] The Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] yesterday called upon President No Tae-u to form a "Pan-national Cabinet as a caretaker under which a snap parliamentary and local council elections can be held simultaneously at an early date. The PPD led by Kim Tae-chung issued a statement on the current critical situation after a series of meetings of party executives and the members of the PPD's crisis-control committee.

In the statement, the PPD urged No to withdraw a plan to inaugurate the mammoth ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], a conservative alliance of three parties led by No and two former opposition leaders Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil. The statement was read by vice president Choe Yong-kun. Choe denounced the projected founding of the DLP as an "unethical and undemocratic" act which runs counter to the spirit of No's declaration for democratic reforms on July 29, 1987. He suggested that the PPD will launch a campaign to discredit No if the No regime refuses to meet the opposition party's demand by saying, "If the No government turns down the demand for democratic reforms, we, along with the people, will start a tough struggle." PPD president Kim, who had been absent from party affairs since April 23 for medical treatment of his larynx, was present at the news conference to announce the PPD's position in overcoming current national difficulties.

Choe went on to call upon the Chief Executive to restore people's trust and to take a sincere attitude to stemming the difficult situation through dialogues between rival parties. "President No should form a neutral and democratic Cabinet composed of politicians and figures of conscience from all walks of life acceptable to the people," the statement said. The PPD argued in the statement that the current crisis was triggered by the merger of three parties schemed to protract No's grip on power, back-peddalling on democratic reforms, real estate speculation by big business concerns, the internal struggle for power in the ruling party and heavy-handed suppression of the labor movement and freedom of the press. As questions which need urgent action the opposition party demanded that So Ki-won, president of the Korea Broadcasting System, Information Minister Choe Pyong-yol and Home Minister An Ung-mo resign taking responsibility for the crippling of the state-run TV and radio network for more than three weeks.

Poll Views Present Situation as 'Overall Crisis'

SK0405232190 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
4 May 90 p 1

[Text] The majority of the people blame the current "overall crisis" on the wrongdoings of President No

Tae-u and politicians of the ruling party. This has been revealed in a telephone poll jointly conducted by CHOSON ILBO and the Korean Gallup Research Institute for one day on 3 May among a total of 521 respondents, men and women over the age of 20. The results are as follows:

On the question, "Do you agree with the review that the present situation is a crisis?" 63.4 percent of the respondents said "yes," while 23.8 percent said "no." The rest 12.8 percent did not respond to the question.

On the question concerning the cause of such a crisis, 42.3 percent said that "it is due to the wrongdoings of President No and the ruling party," which occupies the highest percentage, while 19.1 percent said that "it is due to the people's selfish behavior," which occupies the second highest percentage. The rest 6.2 percent and 3.8 percent said "workers' strikes" and "businessmen" respectively.

On the reason why they view the present situation as a crisis, 38.4 percent said "because of the instability in prices," 32.7 percent said "labor-management disputes," 25.3 percent said "the internal disputes in the Democratic Liberal Party," 8.5 percent said "sharp drop in the prices of stocks," 7.5 percent indicated "real estate speculation," and 7.1 percent said "radical students' and workers' demonstrations."

On the question on ways to solve the present crisis, 27.6 percent stressed "stability in prices," 25.1 percent indicated "political stability," 19.0 percent said "labor-management reconciliation," and 10.9 percent said "improvement of quality of politicians."

This poll was conducted among 256 male respondents and 265 female respondents. Among them, 181 were in their twenties, 123 were in their thirties, 93 in their forties, and 124 in their fifties and above. By province, 129 were from Seoul, 90 from Kyonggi Province, 24 from Kangwon Province, 70 from North Kyongsang Province, 84 from South Kyongsang Province, 54 from North and South Chungchong Provinces, and 70 from North and South Cholla Provinces.

Ruling Party Boycotts Assembly Session on KBS

SK0805015390 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
8 May 90 p 2

[Text] The Education-Information Committee of the National Assembly failed to see a session yesterday because of a boycott by ruling party lawmakers. Committee chairman Rep. Chong Tae-chol called the session yesterday to discuss the protracted strike at KBS [Korean Broadcasting System] brought on by the appointment of So Ki-won as president of the state-run TV and radio network. However, ruling party lawmakers, who make up an absolute majority in the committee, refused to attend the session, citing a lot of preparatory work related to the inauguration of the ruling party, the Democratic Liberal Party, forged from

the merger of the former ruling party and two opposition parties. The inaugural convention is slated for tomorrow. Because of a lack of quorum, the session slated for yesterday was automatically aborted.

KBS Announces Plans for Program Normalization

SK0805073690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0702 GMT
8 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (YONHAP)—Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) said it hoped to produce and broadcast some programs normally Tuesday [8 May], ending 27-days of crippled operation caused by a work stoppage.

Kim U-chol, KBS audience department chief, said a council of department representatives had decided to resume airing "The Window to South and North Korea" in its regular Tuesday night spot and to carry live coverage of the World Boxing Association minimum-weight title match between South Korea's Kim Pong-chun and Panama's Silverd Barcenaz on Saturday.

The programs will be produced and broadcast by division chiefs and assistants and KBS will expand normal broadcasting gradually, Kim said. He said the council made it clear to union leaders that it would break off negotiations with them if they continue to demand the resignation of KBS President So Ki-won or attach other unacceptable conditions.

MBC, CBS Return To Normal Broadcast Operations

SK0805015190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
8 May 90 p 3

[Text] The Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. [MBC] and the Christian Broadcasting System [CBS] returned to normal operation yesterday as the unions of the nation's second TV-radio network, and the religious radio network decided to end their week-long work stoppage at their emergency meetings. The unionized employees of the two mass communications systems started to stage strikes in a strong protest against the police raid on the Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) a week ago, totally crippling operation.

The MBC union leaders decided to return their network to normal operation chiefly to make fair reports on the situation at MBC and KBS at an emergency meeting at 3 P.M. Sunday. Normal operation at the two broadcasting systems started at midnight Sunday.

The MBC union representatives adopted a four-point resolution at the marathon meeting, which continued for seven and half hours at the union office of the corporation.

The Seoul-headquartered MBC union demanded in the resolution that Home Minister An Eung-mo make a public apology for the police raid on its office last Friday and that the minister take punitive measures against

those in charge of the raid. The union asked for immediate release of the KBS employees who were hauled away to police stations for questioning.

In the resolution, the union leaders also called on the related authorities for appropriate action against Information Minister Choe Pyong-yol, holding him accountable for the current dispute at the networks.

The MBC union made it clear in the resolution that its members would have recourse to still stronger measures including resumption of work stoppage after several days in the even its demands are not fully met.

Meanwhile, the CBS union decided to return to work at emergency meeting Sunday afternoon, starting at 5 A.M. yesterday. The unionized employees of the radio network have for five days conducted a sympathy strike with their colleagues at the MBC and the KBS.

The union leaders adopted a resolution at the meeting that they would produce and air special programs on the present situation facing the nation's press and that they would hold daily rallies against the suppression of the press at the company at 7 P.M.

Meanwhile the situation at KBS remains still fluid and uncertain as well largely because the union has refused to have talks with the government authorities concerned. The emergency council of the KBS union, which was newly formulated yesterday, continued to balk at talks with the government authorities, denouncing the police raid on the union office of the MBC.

The KBS emergency council requested the immediate stepdown of Minister Choe and So Ki-won, president of the KBS. The council said that the union members would not return to work until the government authorities accepted their demands, requesting release of employees from the police custody.

Approximately 2,000 union members reported to work at KBS on Yoido in Seoul yesterday. They, however, discussed the methods and directions of their struggle in their offices without doing any work.

Dissident Circles Form National Alliance

*SK0405234390 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
4 May 90 p 14*

[Text] Representatives from 52 journalistic circles, labor unions, students and farmers organizations, and dissident groups such as the National Federation of Press Labor Unions, the Korean Journalists Association, the National Council of Labor Unions, the National Council of University Student Representatives, the National Teachers' Union, the National Farmers Union, and National Alliance for Smashing the Democratic Liberal Party's [DLP] One-Party Dictatorship and for Winning the Basic Rights of the Masses, have formed the "National Assembly to Smash the Suppression of Workers at the Korean Broadcasting System [KBS] and

at Hyundai Heavy Industries [Kungminyonhap]" at Cecil Restaurant in Chong-tong, Seoul, on the morning of 4 May.

In a declaration issued after the organization's inauguration, the participants in the meeting said: "Since the DLP came into being, democracy in this country has been in a precarious situation just like a candle flickering in the wind—the real name system of financial transactions and public land ownership have been shelved and police forces were rushed to the public broadcasting institution, where violent suppression was directed against the labor union, to cite a few examples. This is why we have formed the Kungminyonhap in order to smash the present regime's suppression of the press and labor unions and to defend democracy by pooling all of the people's forces."

Professors Demand DLP Dissolve

*SK0805072090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0658 GMT
8 May 90*

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (YONHAP)—Five prominent dissidents, urging the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy and dissident forces to form a democratic political party capable of taking over power, called for the dissolution of the ruling party and immediate general elections Tuesday [8 May].

A day earlier, 1,041 professors from 57 universities across the country also demanded disbandment of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), accusing it of recent "anti-democratic regressions."

The dissidents, Chosun University President Yi Tonmyong, the Revs Kim Kwan-sok and Pak Hyung-kyu and two others, said in a statement that the government should "dissolve the DLP and conduct a general election immediately to receive national judgement on its anti-democratic bid for dictatorial rule."

"All democratic forces, including political parties and various dissident organizations, should leave their sectarian and regional interests behind and join in a pan-democratic political party, and the citizens of Korea should also come together for this," the statement said.

The mammoth DLP, launched in February through the merger of the ruling party and two opposition parties, has been under fire for a series of aborted economic measures as well as factional disputes.

"The conservative party merger for the creation of the DLP is a conspiracy to protect the profits of the haves and prolong the rule of the extreme-right, pro-American regime," the professors' statement said. "Since creation of the DLP, political power has become more reactionary and economic democratization has retreated, while the monopolistic business conglomerates are glued together with politics," charged the professors.

The statement was drawn up and signed in secret by the largest number of professors in the last decade to participate in such a dissident activity.

"If the present government keeps on deceiving the people, it will have to step down soon," they warned in the statement, which was couched in unprecedentedly harsh tones for academics.

Along with political reforms, the seven-point demand called for economic democratization and blasted the government for scrapping plans to introduce the land reforms and real-name financial transactions and for suppressing labor movement.

"We give a solemn warning to the United States and Japan that Korea will not be a scapegoat of the new colonization policy," it said. "President No Tae-u's visit to Japan in late May must be called off."

Suppression of Workers Encourages Resistance

SK0505083190 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN
in Korean 2 May 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Is This the Democratic Liberal Party's Declaration of Bankruptcy?—The Struggle by KBS Employees and a Sign of Popular Resistance"]

[Text] Over the past few days, people, the proprietors of the country, have seen the true colors and the core of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and the regime more clearly than ever before. The DLP and the regime ordered the police to storm the Korean Broadcasting System [KBS] an hour before the first day of May, the international holiday of workers, after trampling the striking workers at Hyundai Heavy Industries in a punitive expedition. Plainclothesmen and a 1,000-strong "arresting team," also known as the "group of skeletons," stormed into "Democracy Plaza" inside the corporate building located in Yoido, Seoul. There, the station employees marked their 19th day of a sit-in calling on corporation President So Ki-won to resign. The arresting team took 333 protesters to the police station. Never before have the police arrested hundreds of employees of news organizations engaged in a peaceful sit-in, an action unprecedented in the world history of journalism.

When the DLP regime, which was clearly scheming to bring KBS—the "people's broadcasting institution"—under its control, and use it as a public relations instrument in order to prolong its stay in power as was done under the Chon Tu-hwan dictatorship, tried to carry out an operation to achieve such a goal by naming So Ki-won, a man criticized for being "a government-appointed president" as well as an "intellectual serving the interest of the government," as president of the corporation, virtually all of the corporation's 7,000 employees quite naturally rejected the new president. This notwithstanding, the present regime attempted to forcibly subdue the KBS movement for attaining independence. They also went to the trouble of defending Mr.

So, who had even asked the corporation's management staff, corporation first-line officials primarily responsible for the production of programs, to resign. Information Minister Choe Pyong-yol is believed by the general public to be the man who planned and commanded the task of carrying out this unreasonable plan.

Minister Choe, who was once a journalist, did not try to understand the historical meaning of the KBS movement for attaining independence which is supported by the majority of the people, and repeated his statement that "the KBS employees are violating the law by refusing to work for program production. Their demand for the resignation of the KBS president named by the nation's president amounts to a challenge to the chief executive's prerogatives." He sounded just like an old phonograph record.

Amid such a development, a strange thing has happened. Appearing out of nowhere, Kim Yong-kap, former minister of Government Administration, who is a self-proclaimed spokesman for the "conservative forces," tried to mediate between the KBS ad hoc Emergency Committee and the government. Dropping hints of his being a special envoy of the president, he succeeded in persuading the members of the KBS ad hoc Emergency Committee who were groping for ways to normalize the proper functions of the corporation. When it turned out that he did it in a private capacity rather than as the president's special envoy, the participants in the general meeting of the corporation's employees overwhelmingly voted against the so-called "normalization."

The decision made at the general meeting of the KBS employees is not only reasonable, but also fair. How can they believe Mr. Kim Yong-kap, who is not officially authorized to do such a thing, when he said that "Mr. So will step down?" What is more, Mr. Kim is an anachronistic person who tried to stir up the extreme right-wing forces and reverse the stream of democratization during his tenure in the ministry office. Once the employees of the KBS normalized the operation of the corporation, accepting his words, they will have a very difficult choice to make if Mr. So refuses to step down. If the employees of KBS refuse to produce programs, they will be accused of alienating the people from the regime, which has been portraying the KBS employees as holding the broadcast media hostage, and could possibly be brought to bay.

Precisely for such a reason, the employees of the corporation appealed to the people, the proprietors of the broadcasting media, to tolerate the inconvenience caused by the lack of normal broadcasting until they had completely normalized broadcasting after winning their goal, namely democratic and independent management of the station. In response, many TV viewers extended their warm support to the cause of the KBS employees engaged in righteous struggle.

The struggle of the KBS employees, which was trampled under the jackboot, is now spilling into the entire broadcasting sector. The trade union at Munhwa Broadcasting

Company [MBC] began a full-scale strike of refusing to cooperate in producing programs from 1000 on 1 May calling for Mr. So Ki-won to resign and denouncing the government's suppression of those who are trying to attain independence in broadcasting operations. At about the same time, nine MBC local stations, including those in Kwangju, Taejon, and Andong, followed suit and the remaining ten local stations are likely to do the same quite soon. Even the members of the trade union at the Christian Broadcasting Station are debating as to whether they will go on strike, refusing to participate in producing programs or support the KBS struggle by producing effective programs. It is an extreme rarity to see the employees of broadcasting media, who have no choice but to be fiercely competitive with their counterparts in other companies as they engaged in commercial broadcasting organizations within the capitalist framework, go on strike in solidarity with their competitors in order to share the latter's suffering and the oppression forced on them.

Those who are engaged in broadcasting service in our country have done their part in democratization, more than what is required of them since the June resistance in 1987. In spite of their relatively better working conditions, they tried to stand on the side of those who are deprived of what they deserve and those who are oppressed rather than to defend their vested interest.

In addition to such a spirit of independence, the DLP regime's operation to bring the broadcasting institution under its control has in fact lighted the fuse of their uniform struggle. Now that it has become clear the regime schemes to bring the KBS under its control and then let conglomerate businessmen parcel out the MBC after denationalizing the broadcasting company, the employees at both broadcasting institutions have hardened their resolution to unite in struggle to defend the democracy in the broadcasting media.

We declare the DLP regime's act of trampling the KBS employees with force following the use of police force against the striking workers at Hyundai Heavy Industries to be politically bankrupt. The majority of the people have now demonstrated their aversion to the regime that had to subdue with force the workers who tried to exercise their proper rights and the movement of those at news organizations to attain independence and democracy in order to survive. The "National Alliance for Smashing the DLP's One-Party Dictatorship and for Attaining the Basic Rights of the Masses" demanded that the present regime step down and that the DLP disband. What was called for by the National Alliance of People, a solidarity organization composed of 13 organizations, including the National Democratic Alliance of Korea, the National Council of University Student Representatives, and the National Federation of Trade Unions, represents public opinion. If the DLP does not stop using violence even at this moment, the public voice as such will only grow louder.

International Sources of Weapons Diversify

*SK0305160190 Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean
22 Apr 90 pp 34-37*

[Article by Yu Yong-won: "British Planes in the Sky, German Submarines in the Sea—Korea's Weapons Sources Diversify"]

[Text] French Exocet Missile Already in Inventory—Submarines, Helicopters Next

The 209-class submarine: West-German made. Underwater speed, more than 20 knots. A destroyer killer armed with eight torpedoes it can fire in succession.

The Lynx helicopter: British made. Carries antiship missiles and antisubmarine torpedoes. Executioner of submarines and high-speed patrol craft.

The Exocet missile: French made. Range: 40 kilometers. So fearsome is the Exocet that but a single one of the missiles was required by the Argentines to sink one of Britain's most advanced destroyers during the 1982 Falkland war.

These three weapons can be seen outside of foreign arms exhibitions or at air shows. These are weapons which are in the hands of the Korean armed forces now or which we are told will be in our possession in the future.

Most Koreans believe the ROK armed forces possess only American-made weapons or arms manufactured with U.S. technology. When we think of small arms, the M-16 comes to mind. When we think of tanks, we think of the M-48 and M-60. Fighter aircraft mean the F-4 and the F-16 to most of us. Koreans are unfamiliar with the names of West German, British, or French weapons.

Yet the ROK Army fields large numbers of British-made surface-to-air missiles along with our U.S. Stinger missiles. West German submarines soon will ply the seas around the Korean peninsula, while British helicopters fly over our airspace.

Authoritative, world-class journals and reports on our military strength have already revealed these facts. These reports suggest that Korea is moving away from sole reliance on the United States for arms acquisition, at least in some areas.

Former Minister of National Defense Yun Song-min said, "Currently, we are totally dependent on the United States as a weapons source. We plan to acquire weapons which meet our specifications by diversifying arms sources to include France, Britain, and Italy." Yun made this statement in 1985 at National Assembly Defense Committee hearings. The 1989 annual published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) revealed that the ROK Government imported French Exocet missiles in the mid-1980s. A contract to obtain French-made Lynx helicopters has also been concluded. The British International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) also confirmed that the ROK armed

forces possessed the Exocet missiles in a report titled "Military Balance" published last year.

The SIPRI annuals for 1985 and 1989 revealed that our government had not only negotiated to acquire West German submarines but that, in fact, the submarines have been formally ordered.

Efforts To Acquire Remotely Piloted Vehicles Designed To Confuse Enemy Radar and Surface-to-Air Missiles

The respected defense industry magazine "Jane's Defense" reported in February 1990 that the ROK Government was carrying out several projects to expand weapons systems. The Remotely Piloted Vehicle (RPV), an Antisubmarine Early Warning (AEW) aircraft, and antitank weapons projects were all under way, according to the article. "Jane's" carefully concluded that the projects to expand ROK weapons systems were not related to moves related to withdrawal of U.S. forces from Korea.

"Jane's" noted that the RPVs the ROK Government was actively considering were Canada's CL-289 and the American Mirach 100ER. The journals also said that the U.S. P3C, the French Atlantique 2, and the Netherlands Fokker 50 had emerged as the top candidates for AEW aircraft. Although "Jane's" provided no exact weapons names, it did disclose that France and West Germany are two of the countries competing to provide antitank weapons to Korea.

The RPV demonstrated its value in the 1982 Lebanon conflict between Israel and Syria. The Israeli Scout RPV was able to precisely identify Syrian positions located throughout the Bekaa Valley. The Israeli Army annihilated the Syrians using this information. The RPV can reconnoiter the enemy situation and transmit this information to friendly forces with no threat to human life.

Both the ROK Army and ROK Air Force are urgently seeking to acquire RPVs. The Army wishes to use it as a reconnaissance asset to update the enemy situation and determine force dispositions. The Air Force wants the RPV for its abilities to confuse enemy radar and surface-to-air missiles.

AEW aircraft detect the location of enemy submarines and attack them. The ROK Navy currently possesses the S-2 aircraft developed by the U.S. Navy in the 1960's but are currently considering a plan to replace these with a newer model. The P3C, one of the candidates to replace the S-2, is fitted with equipment which allows the aircraft to detect the location of enemy submarines, including sound-detecting sonobuoys and magnetic detection gear. The P3C also is armed with offensive weapons such as rockets and MK-46 torpedoes. Although the P3C is regarded as the most powerful AEW aircraft in the West, its high price is a drawback.

There are European weapons in addition to the ones noted above which our armed forces either possess or are

considering acquiring. These include the French Alouette III helicopter and the British Javelin surface-to-air missile. Air combat trainers under consideration include the British Hawk-60, the Italian MB339C, and the Spanish Casa 101.

The Alouette III helicopter is a small, multi-purpose helicopter carried aboard a destroyer. It conducts sea reconnaissance, liaison between vessels, and can detect the location of both submarine and surface vessels. The report "Military Balance" revealed that ROK Navy destroyers are equipped with this helicopter.

The Javelin missile is a shoulder-fired, surface-to-air missile similar to the U.S. Stinger missile. Both SIPRI's annual and the "Military Balance" report revealed that the ROK armed forces maintain this weapon in their inventory.

Britain's Hawk 60 combat air trainer normally is utilized to train pilots but can function as a fighter aircraft when necessary and can be armed with the Sidewinder air-to-air missile. Italy's MB339C and Spain's Casa 101 fill similar missions. The ROK Air Force is known to be carefully evaluating the relative capabilities of these three aircraft. "The Times" of Britain reported that the Korean Government will probably select the British Hawk as its trainer.

The Ministry of National Defense refused to confirm either that our forces possess these weapons or that plans exist to acquire them. The Ministry revealed only that it is currently considering a plan to import AEW aircraft.

Korea began to diversify its sources of military hardware after 1980, as Minister Yun's testimony before the Defense Committee at the Assembly in 1985 underscored. Our government made several attempts to diversify its sources of weapons supply even before 1980.

In the late 1970s, for example, Korea domestically produced APCs based on technology transfers on the Italian Fiat 6614 APC. The Oerlikon air defense cannon was imported from Switzerland to fortify our air defense network based largely on the U.S. Vulcan air defense cannon. A myriad of other weapons systems have been acquired as well, either as completely assembled equipment, knock-down kits, or in the form of technology acquisition.

Two-Faced American Policy Has Frustrated Diversification Attempts Started in the Late 1960's

The Korean Government desired to become self-reliant in national defense; however, the two-faced American policy, especially the "provide aid and enjoy control" relationship, prevented the full realization of that goal. The construction of a small arms factory in 1968 is a good example of this. Our government opened international bidding for a small arms factory to be built in Korea. The American Colt company and a handful of European companies submitted bids, and after three to four painful years, we gave the contract to Colt. That

obligated the ROK Army to choose the U.S. M-16 rifle as its basic infantry weapon.

According to a 1983 report in the British professional journal "International Defense Review," our government undertook negotiations with the U.S. and several European countries in the early 1980's to purchase submarines. Our Navy had been markedly inferior to that of North Korea in the submarine category. As negotiations progressed to the point that we were ready to conclude a contract to purchase West German submarines, the deal fell through due to American pressure.

The Ministry of National Defense established a Weapons Systems Deliberative Panel in 1983 to deal with the issue of diversification of weapons sources. The Ministry of National Defense's second assistant minister for logistics was picked to chair the panel, while the Army, Navy, and Air Force each assigned representatives to it. Service representation on the panel changed depending on the nature of the particular weapons system under review.

The panel accepts requests from each of the three services, compiles them, and selects multiple candidates for each weapon targeted for consideration. The panel provides services to organizations concerned with that weapon and depends on the Korea Institute for Defense Analysis (KIDA) and the Agency for Defense Development (ADD) for research support. KIDA is responsible for management and administration of research, while ADD examines the technical feasibility of the weapons system. The Minister of National Defense normally has responsibility for the final acquisition decision. A variety of external factors come into play as well, depending on the nature of the project, its cost, and special instructions from the president.

It is hard to deny that the United States has made many contributions to Korean security, both tangible and intangible. The Americans transferred the Honest John missile to our armed forces during the partial withdrawal of U.S. forces from Korea in 1977. The United States also provides at least limited technical assistance to the Korean defense industry and also provides material support under the Combined Defense Improvement Plan (CDIP). However, a not insubstantial amount of "control" accompanies the aid, and this has been one element of "Korea-American discord." The issue, in fact, has been a regular menu item at the annual ROK-US Security Consultative Meetings (SCM).

The United States exercises thorough-going export controls on defense items produced by Korea with U.S. technical assistance, making it difficult for the Korean defense industry to expand its markets. The U.S. began to accept our demands to a limited degree in the mid-1980s, when the situation for our defense industries grew serious, but the export controls remain a subject of heavy criticism. Even the U.S. Heritage Foundation, in a report released in 1985, pointed out that: "Excessive U.S. controls on Korean weapons exports have driven the

Korean defense industry to the point of extinction. In 1984, the Korean defense industry operated at only 40 percent of capacity."

Defense experts point out that there are both positive and negative aspects to diversifying weapons sources. One expert noted: "U.S. weapons are not the most superior in all aspects, nor can they be. Inexpensive and practical weapons are plentiful in other countries, especially Europe. It is therefore desirable to expand the scope of practical options available by diversifying weapons sources. Moreover, European weapons are more beneficial to Korea in the area of technology transfer. There is more to weapons systems, however, than mere acquisition. Maintenance, parts availability, and parts compatibility are all important factors as well. One must consider that Korea's weapons systems are currently centered on systems produced in the United States. We must pursue diversification while remembering these key factors in order to maximize the positive aspects of diversification."

Diversification of Weapons Sources an International Trend: Even the United States Is Introducing and Using European Weapons

One college professor noted: "Although diversification of weapons sources is good in theory, there are many factors which must be thoroughly considered. There are positive aspects to cutting expenses through competitive bidding. From the military point of view, however, one cannot forget that doctrinally our entire weapons system structure is dependent on the United States. The United States has blocked our efforts at attaining self-reliance as well as our efforts at diversification on a number of occasions in the past. This cannot be ignored either."

Defense experts also point to countries in the Middle East, Israel, Syria, and Libya all employ complex weapons systems imported from the United States, the Soviet Union, and Europe. Israel has improved on weapons systems which they have imported, and subsequently have been able to win in four different wars as well as the Lebanon conflict. Libya on the other hand possesses a variety of the most modern Soviet and European weapons, yet remain unable to employ them efficiently, and were not even able to respond to the 1986 U.S. air strike.

Defense experts recommend avoiding dependence on one country for military hardware. Many countries have diversified their weapons sources among the United States, Europe, and the Soviet Union. Even the United States, known as most conservative in importing foreign weapons, has begun to acquire weapons systems from abroad. Washington has purchased the British 105mm cannon, the Israeli Kfir fighter, and the French Dolphin 2 helicopter and maintains these weapons in its inventory under different names. The United States is also reported to be evaluating other European weapon systems it may decide to acquire.

President No To Visit Japan; Names Delegation

*SK0805060690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0506 GMT
8 May 90*

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u of South Korea will visit Japan as a state guest May 24-26, presidential spokesman Yi Su-chong announced Tuesday. No will meet with Emperor Akihito on three occasions and with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu twice to heal the scars remaining from the "unfortunate past" and to seek cooperation for security in northeast Asia and economic development of the Asia-Pacific region, Yi said.

It will be No's first trip to Japan as President. The visit was postponed twice: in November 1988 and May 1989. Koreans both here and in Japan are demanding cancellation of the trip, charging that Tokyo has failed to show sincerity in talks on improving the legal status of Koreans. No will discuss with Japanese officials the legal status of resident Koreans and will address the Diet on May 25, Yi said.

Another official at the president's office said No, as a matter of diplomatic courtesy, would invite Akihito to visit Korea. He predicted the emperor would apologize for acts committed against Koreans during colonization of the Korean peninsula in 1910-45 and World War II in stronger terms than his late father did during former President Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Tokyo in 1984.

No's official delegation will comprise Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung, Justice Minister Yi Chong-nam, Trade and Industry Minister Pak Pil-su, Science and Technology Minister Chong Kun-mo, Chief Presidential Secretary No Che-pong and five others.

Possible Invitation to Emperor

*SK0405124990 Seoul YONHAP in English 1240 GMT
4 May 90*

[Text] Seoul, May 4 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean Government will consider inviting Japanese Emperor Akihito to visit Seoul after reviewing the results of President No Tae-u's visit to Japan in late May, Foreign Affairs Minister Choe Ho-chung said Friday [4 May].

Speaking in the National Assembly Foreign Affairs-National Unification Committee, Choe also said that it was his ministry's basic policy to push ahead with No's scheduled visit to Japan. No's trip to Tokyo has already been put off twice since 1988 due to domestic problems of Japan.

"A summit meeting between Korea and Japan is desirable in light of the worldwide trend to discuss pending issues of mutual concern and, by so doing, promote cooperation through conversation between the heads of the state," he replied at an inquiry raised by opposition lawmakers.

During the committee meeting, Choe's effort to push ahead with No's visit to Japan was harshly criticized by opposition lawmakers who argued that a recent meeting between Choe and his Japanese counterpart in Seoul failed to make any meaningful progress in solving pending bilateral issues.

"The agreement concerning the legal status of the Korean residents in Japan represents a far departure from the government's original position which called for the complete abolition of the fingerprinting and alien registration card system for the Koreans," said Rep. Mun Tong-hwan from the Party for Peace and Democracy.

Asked on the possibility that No may discuss a military link during his Tokyo visit, Choe said, "it is highly unimaginable and has never been considered."

Seoul Proposes North-South Red Cross Talks

*SK0805012590 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 8 May 90 p 2*

[Text] Seoul has proposed that south and north Korea hold the 11th plenary session of the south-north Red Cross talks at Panmunjom next month. Kim Sang-hyop, president of the Korean National Red Cross (KNRC), yesterday sent a letter to his north Korean counterpart Yi Song-ho and called for his cooperation in resuming the Red Cross talks which are aimed at arranging reunions of separated family members.

South and north Korea have held 10 plenary sessions of Red Cross talks since 1971. The 10th session was held in Seoul in December 1985. They had seven working-level contacts last year to discuss the exchange of home visitors and holding of the 11th plenary session. However, they failed to reach agreements, colliding over whether a north Korean art troupe to accompany the visitors should be allowed to stage Communist revolutionary operas in Seoul or not.

DPRK 'Virtually Rejected' Contact Proposal

*SK0705132390 Seoul YONHAP in English 1310 GMT
7 May 90*

[Text] Seoul, May 7 (YONHAP)—North Korea has virtually rejected a recent proposal by South Korea for the resumption of the preliminary contacts for prime ministers' talks, by urging the South again to demolish "concrete walls" in the South and accept Pyongyang's call for the South-North "political conference" as preconditions.

An Pyong-su, secretary general of the North Korean Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, said in a telephone message sent to National Unification Minister Hong Song-chol that the reopening of South-North dialogue would not carry any significance unless the South accepts the two preconditions.

In the curse-worded [as received] message, which appears to be Pyongyang's reply to South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun's message sent on April 7, an said, "Kang has shown irresponsible and restless attitude by claiming that (Pyongyang's demand for) the dismantling of the walls constitutes an act of disarming the South."

While branding Seoul's announcement of its recent discovery [of] a North Korea-dug tunnel in the Demilitarized Zone as "a mean trick designed to counter Pyongyang's call for the demolition of the walls," An said, "if things are getting like this, we will not be able to discuss the future of the nation on same moral standard."

Kang had sent his North Korean counterpart Yon Hyong-muk a letter, urging him to realize prime ministers' meeting on political and military issues. He called on the North to give up its adherence to the "unrealistic" assertion on the breakdown of the walls which the South maintains are anti-tank barriers, not impediments to free travel.

'Disappointment' Expressed in North's Attitude

SK0805060790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0559 GMT
8 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 8 (YONHAP)—South Korea reiterated its call on North Korea on Tuesday to resume inter-Korean dialogue "at the earliest date."

National Unification Board spokesman Choe Pyong-po said South Korea demanded that North Korea "faithfully participate in normal dialogue" since this was the only way for the South and North to solve pending issues smoothly.

Responding to North Korea's telephone message Monday demanding demolition of "the concrete wall" and proposing a "political conference" to discuss resumption of inter-Korean talks, Choe said Pyongyang's "improper allegations are a cheating strategem to evade the global trend toward openness and reforms."

Seoul claims that the concrete wall mentioned by Pyongyang is an anti-tank barrier and is not an impediment to free travel between the two Koreas.

"We cannot but express disappointment and regret at the North's attitude since several inter-Korean talks are at the point of bearing fruit," Choe said. "We will continuously wait with patience until the North is ready for dialogue."

North Korea suspended all inter-Korean dialogue to protest the annual defensive U.S.-South Korean joint military exercise "Team Spirit" that ended last month.

Four Win Permission To Contact North Koreans

SK0505020690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0138 GMT
5 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 5 (YONHAP)—Four elderly South Korean nationals won government permission to contact North Koreans on Friday, three to arrange reunions in Pyongyang and one to invite North Koreans to an international seminar in Seoul.

Under South Korean law, as laid out in the basic guidelines for inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation, government approval and guidance is required for contact with, or travel to, the Northern half of the divided Korean peninsula.

O Tong-sun, 72, a landlord, applied April 10 to the National Unification Board through the supporting Council for Family Reunions for permission to contact his son O Su-ka, 45, and sister O Tong-sin, 67, both believed to be living in Yangduk, South Pyongan Province.

Kim Sin-kwon, 75, president of a pharmaceutical company, made an application April 13 to give a letter addressed to his son Kim Sung-nam, 45, living in Puchang, North Pyongan Province, to the head North Korean delegate to an international pharmaceutical exhibition in Moscow that opens May 26.

Paek In-kwan, 67, chairman of an electronic firm, asked for permission April 14 to send a letter to his mother through his brother Paek In-tok, a U.S. citizen.

Kim Su-pong, 66, chief director of an art association, April 9 requested approval to invite North Koreans to attend a meeting of the Asia-Pacific Formative Art Council in Seoul from June 20-22.

O, Kim and Paek will be given permission to visit the North upon receipt of invitations from their North Korean relatives, government officials said. On April 23, four South Korean nationals won approval for the first private visits to North Korea solely for family reunions since the nation's division was sealed by the Korean war. There has been one group reunion of divided families arranged by the Red Crosses of South and North Korea.

North Seeks Malaysia's Help in Foreign Ties

SK0505062290 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean
5 May 90 p 4

[AP-YONHAP from Kuala Lumpur]

[Text] Abdullah Padjil Chewan, vice foreign minister of Malaysia, said that during talks on 4 April, Cha Pong-chu, North Korean vice foreign minister who is now visiting Malaysia, requested Malaysia's cooperation for North Korea's efforts to establish diplomatic relations with the Philippines and to improve relations with the United States and Japan.

Chewan, Malaysian vice foreign minister, revealed that during the 2-hour long talks, Vice Minister Cha made this request, and that Malaysia pledged its support.

Vice Minister Chewan said that on the second day of his 5-day visit to Malaysia, Vice Minister Cha also requested the Malaysian side to lift the ban on traveling to North Korea, and proposed that a Malaysian airline operate the line to Pyongyang via Guangzhou, China, while a North Korean airline operates the line to Kuala Lumpur via Beijing. Vice Minister Chewan noted that at the talks between the vice foreign ministers of the two countries, the issue of promoting their cooperation in domains of culture, sports, communications and science, was discussed. He said Vice Minister Cha stressed that establishing a single mission of the North and the South of Korea in the United Nations is the North Korean side's hope.

Soviet Official in Seoul Views USSR Ties

SK0505065690 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN
in Korean 4 May 90 p 14

[Interview with Vitaliy Nazarov, head of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce in Korea, by Kang Sin-ku, deputy editor-in-chief of KYONGHYANG SINMUN, in the "Invited Guest" feature column]

[Text] Although it was the opening in Seoul and Moscow of the Korean and Soviet trade missions in August last year that paved the way for official exchange between the two countries, it was in fact only when the staff of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce's mission in Korea arrived and unpacked in Seoul in April 1989 that the unofficial contacts between the two countries were put in motion.

Vitaliy Nazarov, 42, head of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce mission in Seoul, which is marking the first anniversary of its opening, commented: "Last year was an historic year, during which Korean-Soviet relations, severed for the past 85 years, have been successfully reconstructed." Nazarov, a man of medium height and heavy build, is a typical Russian hailing from Minsk. He went to Hungary for advanced studies after graduating from Moscow University. Because of his connection with Hungary, he spent seven years as a diplomat posted to the Soviet Embassy in Hungary.

After his seven-year stint in Hungary, he was recruited by the Soviet Academy of Sciences and then was named to head the mission office of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce in Korea. He speaks flawless Hungarian, and his English, which he claims he taught himself, is fluent.

Declaring that he, his wife Larisa, and his 11-year-old son are enjoying a happy life in Seoul, Nazarov said, with hearty laughter: Personally, what pleased me the most is the fact that I was promoted to be deputy chairman of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce after I came to Seoul.

[Kang Sin-ku] What kind of changes do you think have taken place in Korean-Soviet relations over the past year?

[Nazarov] I should say that changes that merit watching with keen interest have taken place in political, economic, and cultural fields and in many other areas. In the economic area in particular, direct trade between the two countries has amounted to U.S. \$6 million in volume and we expect that it will be at the level of \$1 billion by the end of this year. According to statistics released by the ROK Government, about 1,200 Soviet citizens have visited Korea during the last year and I think the number of Soviet visitors to Korea will drastically increase this year.

[Kang] What kind of projects are being promoted between the two countries? Tell me about them in detail.

[Nazarov] Trade between the ROK and the USSR still remains at the stage of exchange of raw materials. However, in the second Korean-Soviet economic cooperation conference the participants reached a useful conclusion about the need to improve the trade structure, agreeing to increase the volume in trade of machinery and chemicals and other technology-related goods, breaking from the previous raw material-oriented trade arrangement.

In particular, joint ventures to participate in the development of Siberia and the Soviet Far East are being carefully reviewed by Korea and the Soviet Union. Nevertheless, we expect that large-scale petrochemical, lumber-processing, and foodstuff-producing joint ventures will be put into operation before the end of this year, even though none of them has been agreed upon yet.

[Kang] Many Korean businessmen are troubled at the thought that the guarantee for the recovery of their investment in the Soviet Union is uncertain. What do you think of this?

[Nazarov] I think it is a groundless apprehension generated by a lack of understanding between the two countries. As is widely understood, our government guarantees profits for any foreign investors.

[Kang] The Korean Government has already sent an ambassador-level official to Moscow to head the consular department there. However, the Soviet Union has responded to this by failing to send even a diplomat at the level of a consular department head. Is it because of your government's awareness of North Korea that it has been delaying the establishment of diplomatic relations with Korea while hoping for economic exchange with us?

[Nazarov] Frankly speaking, it is a factor as a matter of fact. I think that in the long run, it is in the interest of the two countries involved in diplomatic relations to take into consideration not only one's own stand, but also the stand of the opposing side in developing diplomatic relations.

My understanding is that there was no agreement between Korea and the Soviet Union on the exchange of diplomats at the level of consular department head and we have no plan for that at this moment either. For the time being, consular affairs between the two countries will have to be handled at the trade mission level.

[Kang] Korea hopes that the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union will be completed before the end of this year. Do you consider it possible?

[Nazarov] The prospect for it is bright since the contacts that are currently being conducted between the two countries are political. But in my personal view, it is more important for the two countries to build mutual understanding brick by brick out of consideration for the future of the two countries. In this sense, Korea seems to be in too much of a hurry.

[Kang] The Soviet Union's policy toward the Korean peninsula seems to be so confusing. Even officials in the Soviet Foreign Ministry seem to have differing opinions and sometimes they look so baffled when it comes to Soviet policy toward the Korean peninsula. What do you think is the reason?

[Nazarov] We have a saying in the Soviet Union: Running in front of a moving locomotive is a dangerous undertaking. At this very moment, enormous wheels called democratization are now turning all over the world. When such a big movement starts, it naturally creates an abundance of different noises and rumors. Nevertheless, the movement will never stop.

[Kang] The feuds developed over diplomatic affairs between Korean politicians who have recently returned from a visit to the Soviet Union have spilled into the open as a political issue. What do you think of it?

[Nazarov] In diplomatic contacts, there are some things that can be made public and some things that must be kept secret. It seems to me that such diplomatic rules are often ignored in Korea. I believe that it is absolutely necessary for countries to have synchronization between them in international relations in particular.

[Kang] Currents of democratization and opening are now sweeping over the world. Amid such upheavals, only North Korea seems to remain tightly closed. We think it is necessary for the Soviet Union to prod North Korea into opening itself up out of consideration for world peace.

[Nazarov] As is well known, North Korea is not a satellite country of the Soviet Union. So, the Soviet Union is in no sense in a position to tell North Korea to do this and do that. Moreover, the Soviet Union still feels in its mouth the bitter taste of defeats suffered after years of intervention in such Third World countries as Hungary and Afghanistan. Therefore, the basic Soviet stand on the Korean peninsula question is that it must be settled through dialogue between the two concerned, as stated by Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze.

[Kang] North Korea appears to be figuratively tightening the lid on its closed-door system through such things as succession of power. What kind of future do you see for North Korea?

[Nazarov] Presently, the world is going through rapid changes. If the wind of democratization is sweeping through even Mongolia, can North Korea keep the wind from penetrating?

[Kang] The Soviet Union has been suffering a lot since it put perestroika in motion. Do you think your country's reform and opening policy will succeed?

[Nazarov] True, the Soviet Union is now faced with difficulties in economy and ethnic unrest. Over the past 70 years, the Soviet Union was accustomed to a controlled social system and it now finds it very difficult to change into a market-oriented economic system. Personally, I am convinced that perestroika will succeed if we can get some international assistance. In particular, since the majority of Soviet citizens support the reform and opening policy, the object of which is to convert the Soviet system into one with a human face and to liberate man, I believe that they will successfully overcome the present sufferings in the near future.

[Kang] The Soviet Union is also experiencing great ideological changes. The reassessment of Lenin can be cited as evidence.

[Nazarov] Koreans seem to have misunderstandings about Lenin. Lenin professed a market-oriented economy rather than a controlled economy. Lenin's idea has been put to bad use by the post-Lenin Soviet rulers as an instrument in building an authoritarian system. As a result, Lenin's idea has been distorted.

[Kang] What impression has Korea and your contacts with the Koreans left with you?

[Nazarov] The Korean people are friendly to foreigners. What strikes me most strongly is that they are hard workers. Since I am a work horse myself, I have had no particular difficulties living in Korea except for the lack of mutual understanding with the Korean people. Although Korea has a striking ability in the industrial fields, there seems to be a growing gap between the established and the younger generation. What appears to be a problem is that things traditional are being rapidly destroyed.

[Kang] Some time ago I heard that you would be appointed to the office of Soviet ambassador to Korea in recognition of your distinguished services rendered in reestablishing Korean-Soviet relations. Your comment on this, please.

[Nazarov] That is not true. I am faithfully fulfilling my duty as a member of the interim staff.

SRV Viewed as Market for Korean Cigarettes

SK0505045290 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
5 May 90 p 8

[By staff reporter Pak Chang-sok]

[Text] Vietnam has emerged as one of the major markets for exports of the Korean cigarette industry. The state-run corporation engaged in cigarette manufacturing has tapped Vietnam as the most lucrative country for exports of home-made cigarettes and cigarette-marking equipment and is all out to make inroads into the long-closed market.

Vietnam is one of the Communist countries Korea has had serious difficulties in gaining access to due to the lack of diplomatic relations.

As a tangible fruit of Seoul's ongoing efforts to advance into Communist markets, the Korea Tobacco and Ginseng Corporation (KTGC) has reached an accord with the Vietnamese cigarette-manufacturing corporation on the export of four sets of cigarette-making equipment to Vietnam.

The equipment is now being overhauled, waiting to be shipped to Ho Chi Minh City.

To discuss detailed technical issues connected with the delivery of the equipment, Hong Tu-pyo, president of the Korea Tobacco and Ginseng Corporation, will leave for Ho Chi Minh City around the middle of this month to meet his Vietnamese counterpart.

The KTGC plans to push ahead with the construction of a cigarette-manufacturing plant in the Communist state which will produce cigarettes in a joint venture with the KTGC. KTGC head Hong said in an interview that the Vietnamese cigarette market is vast, unparalleled in other nations, in light of the growing cigarette-smoking population.

The ratio of smoking population to the total Vietnamese population is nearly 50 percent, unusually high compared with other countries and the cigarette industry is extremely backward. So, there is a serious shortage of cigarettes and a sizable quantity has to be imported.

Riding the wave of liberalization sweeping Eastern Europe, the KTGC lost no time in making a foray into the markets there which had been long closed to Korean makers. Major East European countries considered favorable to the Korean advance are Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and Hungary.

Working-level negotiations have been completed or are under way for exports of Korean-made cigarettes, according to Hong. In particular, the KTGC is now actively pushing negotiations with Hungary on the possibility of technical tieups in cigarette manufacturing. Hungary is also acutely interested in the import of ginseng, particularly red ginseng—Korea's most popular tourist item.

The corporation chief thinks that the coming Asian Games in Beijing will be a good occasion for Korea to expand its access to Chinese markets for cigarettes.

Hong has expressed deep concern about the growing market occupancy of foreign cigarettes, especially of U.S. makes. The KTGC's goal is to keep the foreign occupancy rate at below 7 percent of the total market.

In a two-week business tour of Asian countries starting on May 14, Hong will go to Hong Kong, where he will discuss with officials ways of preventing the production of bogus ginseng. According to the KTGC, a sizable volume of bogus ginseng has been put on sale under Korean brands in Hong Kong.

Trade Commission To Probe Surge in Imports

SK0505051290 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 5 May 90 p 6

[Text] The Korea Trade Commission [KTC] will initiate an investigation into an import surge even though it was not asked to do so, the KTC said yesterday. If the investigation proves the import surge causes an injury to a domestic industry, the KTC said it will recommend remedial measures.

In the past, the KTC has avoided investigating an import surge when no business asked for a probe. The change in the KTC policy appears to be designed to effectively deal with excess imports that have followed import liberalization.

Government action against an import surge found to cause an injury to a domestic industry will be in line with rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, it said.

The KTC said it will select 200 import items and investigate them to determine what effect they have on domestic industries. Investigation, it said, will start this month.

The investigation has been prodded by a jump in imports which grew 13.1 percent during the first quarter of this year over the corresponding period of last year, it said.

Imports by home appliances, auto and furniture companies, it said, add to rapid growth in overall imports. Those companies import products similar to what they produce themselves, it said. Those companies, it said, do not file a request for an investigation into an import surge because they more than often make up for an injury by the import surge by importing similar products.

But it said such an import surge is certain to affect suppliers to those companies.

The investigation by the KTC into 200 import items will show what effect they have on domestic production, sale and employment, it said.

The 200 items to be selected for inspection will include:

—refrigerators, TV sets, washing machines, video cassette recorders and other home appliances,
—fountain pens, ball-point pens and other stationery products,

—chocolate and other cookies,
—zinc-coated steel plates and other basic industrial materials,
—glass and other kitchen utensils,
—and ties, women's wear and other textile products.

Burma

Paper Questions Fairness of Upcoming Elections

BK0605070390 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
6 May 90 p 7

[Analysis by "Stiletto," a Burmese expatriate, of "a few sections of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law issued by the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the military regime in Burma on May 31, 1989"]

[Text] "I disagree with every word you say, but will defend to my death your right to say it" said Voltaire in expressing one of man's fundamental rights of freedom during the days of the French Revolution.

The Burmese people after being denied such a right for decades had been promised one next month. The fervently cherished and long awaited multi-party elections are to be held on May 27, when the people are supposed to be able to say whom they want as their rulers. But whether they will ever have a chance to do so, and in the process be able to express their inalienable right of a free vote, remains to be seen. In fact the chance of having free and fair elections in which the voters will be able to determine their destiny is the one and only hope that holds the country together. If the long-awaited expectation of the people's intention to choose their leaders is derailed, the country will plunge into deeper quicksands of despair from which there can be no earthly way out. Past election history reveals that most Burmese are not familiar with free and fair elections.

People of age forty-six and younger had never participated in multi-party elections of the pre-1962 days, when the country enjoyed a multi-party system. Then came the dark years when all democratic rights of the people were totally denied. There was no need for representatives of the common people nor elections until 1974 when a national referendum was held to approve a constitution laid down by the Burma Socialist Programme Party [BSPP]. Nearly all of the eligible people came out to vote and they voted for the constitution. The constitution was drawn up by Dr Maung Maung who acquired his doctorate from Holland and guaranteed basic rights and the chance to elect representatives of the common people to the legislature and to all state institutions. The people voted for the constitution not because they favoured the party but because they wanted basic human rights and a chance to have a say in determining their destiny.

Elections followed. The candidates were nominated by the one and only party (BSPP). People did cast their votes but as there was only one candidate, there was absolutely no freedom of choice. Candidates were in fact elected and the only party in existence had absolutely no opposition. In fact the candidates who were nominated did not require any approval from the voters to win their seats. All they needed was party approval for nomination. Loyalties suddenly had a swift change in emphasis. The people's representatives had no need to heed the opinions of the people. And by the same token the people

had no authority to outvote representatives who in reality did not represent them nor were they in the least concerned about the voice of the people. It was a classic situation where the representatives became a law unto themselves.

Dr Maung Maung who later became the president exhorted the people in his last speech (before the military takeover in 1988), to use the power of the vote to express their opinions. But the people had long since been aware that the power of the vote had not existed in the first place. One does not expose oneself to the perils of imprisonment, bullets and bayonets, unless it was felt that freedom of expression entailed in the power of the vote meant something valuable, particularly if the governing powers respect the opinions of the majority. In the absence of such a democratic situation and the complete negation of basic freedoms, the people themselves decided to revolt.

The sequel to this persistent demand for basic freedoms was a promise to hold free and fair elections which the people at large were clamouring for. But a 15-year-record of manipulated elections does not seem to promise a sudden switch in what has become a highly endemic political system.

On May 31, 1989 the SLORC (State Law and Order Restoration Council) declared: "In order to hold a free and fair Multi-Party Democracy General Elections and to elect Representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw (Parliament) the State Law and Order Restoration Council hereby enacts the following law" and promulgates the Pyithu Hluttaw election law. It consists of 15 chapters and 82 sections and in fact will be the most important legal instrument in Burmese political history. But will this serve the very need of free and fair elections?

Section 34 (a) states "If there is only a single candidate in a constituency, election for such constituency shall not be held and the Commission shall declare such candidate to be the Hluttaw representative". This states that if there is only a single candidate in the constituency there is no need for the people to vote. The candidate, even if the constituents do not want him to represent them, will become a representative of the Pyithu Hluttaw and the legislature. He does not need eligibility votes. He does not need the trust of the majority. He does not need even a single vote of his constituency, nor is bound by loyalty to them. The only thing he needs is loyalty to the SLORC, for in practice it is only the SLORC which can dictate the number of candidates in the constituency. This is not manifested but implied.

Sections 8-11 deal with qualifications of persons entitled to stand for elections in which eligibility is described in detail. A lot of excuses can be given, especially in a country where insurgency has existed since 1948, and where associations and numerous activities abound, a candidate can easily be linked to one of these unlawful groups and its members and be disqualified as per Section 10 (h). Even if this does not work Section 10 (c)

provides a convenient way to disqualify candidates. The SLORC had formed military tribunals for conducting trials of criminal offences, where the accused cannot enjoy the right of legal assistance nor provide defence witnesses. All accused are always found guilty after a swift trial. It is very handy to disqualify candidates by slapping them into prison. This leaves the only candidate of the SLORC's choice to have a walkover without any eligibility votes of his constituency, to be declared a representative of the Pyithu Hluttaw.

The Electoral Commission will oversee the forthcoming elections. The people will have a chance to cast their votes. But will they have a final say? It might be free, but only to a certain extent. But one doubts fairness. A lot of people paid with their lives to make this change come true, especially young students. The Electoral Commission does not need to "defend to its death the right of the people to express their opinion" as Voltaire did. But certainly it will have to be courageous enough to stand up to any unfairness and meddling from the SLORC. The future of the country is at stake.

Information Committee Holds 89th News Conference

*BK0505123590 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 4 May 90*

[Excerpts] The Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council held its 89th news conference at 1300 today with local and foreign journalists in the reception hall of the Ministry of Defense. [passage omitted] At the news conference, the Information Committee explained the capture of Darghwin and U Tutha camps of the KNU [Karen National Union] insurgents, false accusations by Amnesty International on Myanmar [Burma], and the term prime minister forever now being used.

The Information Committee first explained matters concerning the capture of Darghwin and U Tutha camps of the KNU insurgents. The plans to capture the KNU camps were implemented because U Tutha camp which is the headquarters of the 20th Battalion of the KNU insurgents and the Darghwin region had been the strategic places of the KNU to smuggle logs, cattle, and metals, and to give administrative support and supply to KNU's 2d and 3d Brigades. [passage omitted]

Next, the Information Committee explained the insurgent attack on Bilin. A combined force of about 100 insurgents comprising the KNU insurgent force led by Kyaw Hpa Lu, Mya Thein, and Myo Myint, and the force from the 209th Battalion of the ABSDF [All Burma Students' Democratic Front] launched a simultaneous attack at 0210 on 4 May from the northeast on the Two Chinthe [Burmese Mythical Lion] place which is located on the northern part of Bilin where a section of soldiers from the No. 1 Infantry Regiment are stationed, the forestry outpost where another section of soldiers are stationed, Ngapyawlaw camp where another section of soldiers are stationed and the Bilin police station. Immediately, a platoon of soldiers from the No. 1 Infantry

Regiment stationed at the office of the Bilin township Law and Order Restoration Council retaliated. As shots were heard, two columns from the headquarters of the No. 1 Infantry Regiment led by the column commander went by motor vehicles to give reinforcement and were met with about 30 insurgents near the cemetery at the entrance to Bilin at 0230. The insurgents, who could not withstand the attack by the army columns, retreated to the east after 10 minutes. The insurgents in the town also retreated to the east at 0240.

As the sound of battle was heard, five sections of soldiers from the 96th Infantry Regiment on security duty in the south sector came to give reinforcement and were met with about 50 insurgents at 0215. The insurgents, who could not withstand the attack by the Army, retreated to the east at 0230. After the battle, two enemy corpses were found and one AK-47, one BA-63, and four rockets captured. One of the corpses is said to be that of Myint U from the 209th Battalion of the ABSDF.

From our side, three soldiers gave their lives for the country and four were wounded. As a result of the attack, Daw Khin San Yi, wife of police sergeant Khin Nyein died and 10 persons, police private Myint Thein, family members of policemen Daw Than Nwe, Ma Hla Yi, and civilians U Thet Naing, U Hla Yi, U Baw, Maung Aung Kyaw Soe, Daw Win Ma San San Wai, and Daw Thaung Sein, were wounded; 132 stalls from the old Bilin market were destroyed by fire.

Continuing, the Information Committee explained matters relating to the allegations by Amnesty International on Myanmar. Amnesty International is a private organization and is not a legal organization concerning the United Nations. It could be seen by studying that this organization had also made objections against the government of the previous era. [passage omitted] BBC in a broadcast at 0640 on 2 May carried the allegations made by Amnesty International on Myanmar. In the broadcast the Amnesty claimed that the Burmese Government was ill-treating political prisoners and torture was being routinely in use. [passage omitted] Amnesty International accused the Burmese Government of suppressing political parties and committing human rights violations before the elections. It is seen that Amnesty International's accusations quoting diplomatic sources came two days after Western diplomats' strong criticism in Yangon [Rangoon] about human rights violations. Regarding this matter, we would like to state that activities of some diplomats in Myanmar had already been explained at the previous news conference.

As the newsmen know, information given by the diplomats had no authenticity, and it could also be seen in the BANGKOK POST quoting Western diplomats as sources. In the previous 88th news conference we had already explained that news quoting the source as an embassy of a Western country is untrue, as are the allegations that the Information Committee had launched virulent attacks to discredit political parties as appeared in the 1 May issue of the BANGKOK POST.

Regarding the allegations by Amnesty International—the so-called international amnesty organization—we describe the allegations as completely untrue. The allegations were made because of the activities of interfering in the internal affairs of Myanmar, in violation against the diplomatic status, by some diplomats. [passage omitted]

Next, the Information Committee explained the use of the term prime minister forever. [passage omitted] In the (BRAMASO) news bulletin, Volume 1, No. 1, published by the the League for Democracy and Peace [LDP] U Nu is mentioned as prime minister forever. That news bulletin is published by U Than Myint, member of the Central Executive Committee of the LDP. We would like to state that it is not appropriate to use the term prime minister forever for U Nu while he is under the restriction order for not abolishing his parallel government, of which he is the so-called prime minister. By using that term, it seems that we will have to ask whether the LDP party is continuing to accept and recognize the premiership of U Nu's parallel government. The political party concerned should consider the legal beneficial aspect of the usage. It should be put into consideration that because of the term prime minister forever, will U Nu still be considered prime minister after the political party that wins the elections form the government? The Information Committee said the fact that action has not been taken against the publication proves the right to freedom of publication. [passage omitted] The news conference ended at 1430.

Agriculture Minister Returns From FAO Meeting

BK0305154990 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation headed by Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister for livestock breeding and fisheries and for agriculture and forests, arrived back in Yangon [Rangoon] by air this afternoon after attending the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's [FAO] 20th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference held in Beijing, the People's Republic of China.

The delegation was greeted at the airport by State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] members, Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, minister for energy and for mines; Lieutenant General Tin Tun, minister for transport and communications and for labor and social welfare; Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of SLORC; Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt, commander of Yangon Military Command and Brigadier General Maung Maung, commander of 502 Air Force Wing; U Ko, director general of the Office of the Government; U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Political Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; PRC Ambassador Mr. Cheng Ruisheng and embassy officials; Mr. Oscar J.S. Lazo, resident representative of the FAO; and departmental officials from the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.

Also returning together with Lt. Gen. Chit Swe were U Tin Hlaing, managing director of Myanmar Agriculture Service, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests; U Nyunt Maung, director of Myanmar Agriculture Service; U Maung Lay, deputy director; U Myint Lwin, head of office; U Thaw, general manager of Myanmar Timber Enterprise; U Sein Lwin, director of Fisheries Department, Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries; and U Hla Myint, deputy general manager of Myanmar Fisheries Enterprise.

Health Minister Leaves for WHO Conference

BK0405082890 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation headed by Colonel Pe Thein, minister for health and education and chief commanding officer of the University Training Corps, left Yangon [Rangoon] by air this morning to attend the 43rd World Health Organization Conference to be held in Geneva, Switzerland.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon airport by State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] members, Lieutenant General Tin Tun, minister for transport and communications and for labor and social welfare; Lt. Gen. Sein Aung, minister for industry-1 and for industry-2; Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of SLORC; Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt, commander of Yangon Military Command; U Ko, director general of the Office of the Government; WHO resident representative Dr. R.R. Chaudhury and departmental officials from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

The Myanmar delegation leader, the minister for health and education, was accompanied by Dr. Tin U, director general of the Department of Health and Dr. Daw May May Tin, director general of the Department of Medical Research as delegation members; Dr. Than Zun, deputy director from the Ministry of Health as delegation secretary and the minister's personnel officer. U Aung Thant, permanent representative of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations in Geneva will attend as a deputy delegation leader; U Win Mya, deputy permanent representative, will attend as a delegation member.

Refugee Worker Reports Mon Exodus Continues

BK0505014890 Bangkok THE NATION in English 5 May 90 p 3

[By Yindi Loetcharoenchok]

[Text] More than 8,000 Mons have fled into Thailand following the Burmese army's three-month operation to wipe out the armed ethnic minority from the Thai-Burmese border area at the Three Pagodas Pass. The exodus mainly from Burma's southern Mon State and Tenasserim Division has continued since February with thousands more from Ye and nearby towns expected to arrive at the common border within the next few days, a Mon refugee relief worker told THE NATION.

According to Nai Tin Aung, chairman of the Mon National Relief Committee, the 8,325 refugees are now being sheltered in five border camps in Sangkha Buri district of Kanchanaburi, about 300 km west of Bangkok. Some 1,000 more, however, made it through to the Sangkha Buri 30 kms away from the frontier, out of which some 500 are living in a Buddhist monastery compound.

When fighting broke out around the Three Pagodas Pass, in February, the Mon villagers and exiled dissident Burmese students, who fled into Thailand, were housed near Songkalia village, about 10 kms from the Three Pagodas Pass. They were later moved by local Thai authorities to the present refuge sites near Ban Huai Malai. Of the five camps Panung Htaw is the largest accommodating 2,983 refugees followed by Day Bung 1,770, Balch Hnook 1,662, Krone Kung 968 and Hlabrad 942. The committee, said Nai Tin Aung, was facing an uphill task in providing food, medical supplies and clothing to the "war victims" and was seeking assistance from various aid organizations.

The relief chairman said he was informed by some new arrivals that thousands more villagers from inner Burma are heading for the common border and that the exodus would continue due to Gen [General] Saw Maung's military regime's harsh oppression, forced conscription of male porters, and widespread unemployment. The report is worrying Nai Tin Aung, who fears the refugee population would outgrow 10,000 before the rainy season and his committee would be unable to accommodate such a huge crowd. He stated that transportation of aid to the camps would also be even more difficult due to the rough and muddy terrain. In April alone some 2,500 villagers had trekked across the border into Thailand causing anxiety among local Thai officers, who anticipated a greater influx of refugees. The authorities finally decided to seal off Ban Huai Malai area on April 27 and stationed officers nearby to prevent the refugees coming into Thailand, he added.

The committee's April report showed that the number of refugees falling ill is increasing with the malaria being the worst scourge. The committee pleaded for urgent medical supplies for three hospitals located at Panung Htaw, Krone Kung, and Hlabrad. The committee also plans to open on June 16 four primary and one middle level schools in the five camps to accommodate 1,426 students. These schools will replace those around the Three Pagodas Pass which were destroyed during heavy military engagements, said the report. The relief agency also called for financial and material help for the construction of the schools and teaching materials. So far only two nongovernmental relief agencies have been providing subsistence to the refugees.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Closer Bilateral Ties With Singapore Viewed

BK0505092590 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 3 May 90 p 14

[Editorial: "Towards Closer Bilateral Relations"]

[Text] Bilateral relations between Malaysia and Singapore (whose destinies have long been known to be closely intertwined) have now reached a stage of maturity, at least at the very top level. After a three-hour meeting with Malaysian Prime Minister [PM] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed in Kuala Lumpur on Monday [30 April], Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew told a Press conference: "I have done more business with Dr Mahathir in nine years (since the latter became PM in 1981) than the other Malaysian Prime Ministers (Dr Mahathir's three predecessors) in 21 years." That's his shorthand way of saying how strong their personal rapport has been. And there is no doubt at all that their "chemistry" has strengthened the bond of bilateral relationship.

Mr Lee's proposal for mutual inspection of each other's air bases and other defence facilities should be considered seriously if such a move can, as he has argued, ensure more openness in bilateral relations. "Americans and Russians distrust each other more than us," he said. "Yet they allow open site inspections (of their military installations)." As a matter of fact, mutual distrust and fear (as the late Albert Einstein had pointed out in the early days of the Cold War) have fuelled for a long time the animosity between the two superpowers. These negative elements must not be allowed to mar relations between two such very close neighbours as Singapore and Malaysia.

In a rather rhetorical way, Mr Lee has also disclaimed any motive of hostility towards Malaysia. Although it may not at all be necessary for good neighbours to openly disavow hostile intentions, assurances of goodwill can inspire confidence. Since Mr Lee has broached the idea of undertaking more confidence-building measures, both sides should sit down and think of the various means that they can adopt to further contribute to the existing store of mutual confidence as well as to lend further momentum to the thriving bilateral relationship.

Although Singapore is a major trading partner and investor, Mr Lee has indicated that there is scope for even broader co-operation with Malaysia. He has suggested providing training for Malaysian engineers and technicians needed for rapid industrialisation, sharing the results of research and development (R&D) conducted in his country, and relocating more industries from Singapore to Johor and even Penang. He has pointed out quite rightly that Singapore stands to gain by

the rapid industrialisation of Malaysia which is now taking place at an even more robust pace after the strong economic resurgence.

Of course, there is an element of competition. We compete with each other even as we co-operate as good neighbours. In fact, all nations compete with one another. That's the way of the world. Of course, there are also occasional hiccups in the long-standing bilateral relationship. While it has not been possible to prevent such recriminating incidents as those created by misunderstanding over the half-tank ruling, the recent arrest of several fishermen from Kampung Gelang Patah, and the detention of a number of people for attempting to sell and procure military secrets, both sides have clearly shown their innate capacity to salve such minor irritants and to quickly make up for inadvertent lapses in conduct (nobody is perfect). The important thing is that (a point that Singapore Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong made after his meeting with Dr Mahathir in Kuala Lumpur in early March) occasional differences "can and should be resolved" to pave the way for a better future in bilateral relations.

Pragmatism has so far marked the relationship between the two neighbours. Mr Lee has said quite frankly of Dr Mahathir: "He drives a hard bargain but keeps his bargain." This is certainly true of the new water agreement which is still being finalised although a memorandum of understanding was signed by the two leaders almost a couple of years ago. After the officials from both sides have dotted the i's and crossed the t's, everyone concerned can be confident that it will be a mutually beneficial long-term deal.

Indonesia

Security Chief on Prospects for PRC Relations

BK0705131990 Jakarta ANTARA in English
1256 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Jakarta, May 7 (OANA/ANTARA)—Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs Sudomo stated here Monday [7 May] that there is no serious problem hampering process to unfreeze diplomatic relations between Indonesia and the People's Republic of China (PRC). "Process towards that end is still underway and there is no serious problem that hampers it. It's just a matter of time," he told newsmen after chairing a coordination meeting of ministers responsible for political and security affairs at his office.

Present during the meeting were Defence and Security Minister L.B. Murdani, Commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces General Try Sutrisno, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Information Minister Harmoko, Chairman of the Coordinating Board of State Intelligence (Bakin) Major General Sudibyo, and Attorney General Sukarton Marmosujono.

During the meeting, Foreign Minister Alatas reported that talks on planned opening of embassies, previous agreements between the two countries, dual citizenship, and debts are still underway between Indonesian and Chinese officials.

According to Sudomo, after the two countries' foreign ministers would soon hold their meeting as a follow up of the senior official meetings. [sentenced as received] However, Minister Sudomo refused to disclose where or when the meeting between the two foreign ministers would be taking place. "It's up to the foreign minister to arrange the meeting," he added.

Indonesia froze its diplomatic relations with China after Jakarta accused Beijing to be involved in the communist abortive coup in 1965.

According to Sudomo, Monday's meeting also took up matters concerning preparations for the 1993 general elections.

Arrival of 199 More Boat Refugees Reported

BK0805073490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0715 GMT
8 May 90

[By Bhimanto Suwastoyo]

[Text] Jakarta, May 8 (AFP)—Three boats carrying 199 people claiming to be Cambodians were washed ashore on separate Indonesian coasts over the weekend, authorities said Tuesday.

A boat carrying 80 people was stranded Sunday on the eastern Sumatran coast of Nipah Panjang, some 620 kilometres (385 miles) northwest of here, with a broken engine, Jambi Provincial Spokesman Muchyan Tambuse said. Mr. Tambuse said the passengers—53 men, 22 women and five infants claiming to be Cambodians—were forbidden to step ashore and had been moved to another vessel mooring at the Nipah Panjang harbour while their boat was being repaired. The refugees were given food and local authorities were awaiting instructions from Jakarta as to what to do with the "boat people," he added.

Another boat with 65 Cambodians was washed ashore at Tangkolak on the northern coast of Java some 80 kms (50 miles) east of here after its engine failed on Sunday, the Karawang Military District commander said. The refugees—15 women, 43 men and seven infants—were given food and temporary shelter at a local cooperative building pending instructions from Jakarta, Lieutenant Colonel Sumarlan said. One of the refugees, who spoke English, told the authorities they left Kompong Som in Cambodia with the intention of seeking refuge in Indonesia.

On Friday, a boat with 54 Cambodians on board was washed ashore at the fishing village of Cikelet on the southern coast of Java, some 190 kms (120 miles) southeast of here, military sources there said. The Cambodians, who said they also came from Kompong Som

and hoped to sail to Australia, were given temporary shelter pending further instructions from Indonesian sources said. The group consisted of 27 men, 20 women and seven infants, they said.

Their boat had been earlier reported to have tried to land on Peucang, an island at the western tip of Java, on April 30. Press reports Sunday said local authorities had provided them with food, water and fuel but barred them from landing.

Observers noted that unlike previous Cambodian refugees, their boats had bypassed Indonesia's designated refugee centre at Galang Island in the Riau archipelago south of Singapore. At the U.N.-supervised Galang centre, boat people including Vietnamese and Cambodians are processed for resettlement in another country.

The centre, which has a capacity to accommodate 5,000, was stretched as the number of refugees on the island had swollen to some 12,500 by April, official figures show. Vietnamese boat people were the majority in Galang, with Cambodians numbering around 800 people, the figures show.

Most of the refugees in Galang were resettled to a third country within two years of their arrival, according to the figures. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas last week stressed that Indonesia, party to a 1975 Geneva agreement on Indochinese refugees, would continue to provide temporary asylum to incoming boat people pending their resettlement elsewhere.

Laos

Enemies Fail To Set Up 'Phantom Government'

BK0705122490 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0430 GMT 7 May 90

[Article by Tho Thammavong: "Strengthening National Defense and Public Order in Sayaboury Province"]

[Text] As a frontline province of our country, Sayaboury has become the target of ceaseless subversive endeavors of enemies who want to weaken it militarily, politically, socioeconomically, and culturally. In their attempts to separate the people from the party and government, the enemies tried to create rifts in the province and even resorted to other acts of seduction, intimidation, and plundering, thus depriving the province of political tranquillity and public order. Gambling, drinking, theft, wanton shootings, and other social vices were rampant as the result of the bad elements' attempt to discredit our new regime.

However, political tranquillity as well as public peace and order have been restored in Sayaboury after the provincial administration decided to undertake several strenuous actions, including having cadres and the people of all strata take part in the tasks of national defense and maintenance of public security by striving to increase production; improve people's living conditions;

and promote education, public health, and culture. Cadres have gone down to the grass-roots level to improve the political foundation and promote the people's right to mastery. Soldiers and police, in particular, have been helping cantons and villages conduct a domicile census and work out public security regulations, as well as assisting public security cadres and militiamen in enforcing those regulations and updating domicile registrations. Consequently, the people feel secure and have confidence in the new regime. The handling of domicile registration and enforcement of village security regulations have gradually become systematic.

Peace and order along both sides of the Lao-Thai border improve daily. The people's sense of national defense is heightened continuously. Public security forces at the grass-roots level have been improved and well trained. At present, there are over 1,000 village public security cadres and over 3,000 militiamen in Sayaboury Province. Their numbers, but not their efficiency, have decreased since the previous period. Many cadres and combatants, such as Comrade Li Von, Comrade Thong Chan, and Comrade Tongdi, have been recognized for their heroic deeds in defeating the enemies' brutal and subtle schemes.

In 1989, regional forces and militiamen punished the bad elements on several occasions. They annihilated and arrested these adversaries, dismantled their hideouts, and captured important documents. These victories have aborted the enemies' scheme to establish their phantom government in Sayaboury Province and eliminated their belittling attitude toward Sayaboury Province.

Phoumi Vongvichit Addresses Front Conference

BK0505102590 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT
5 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 5 (KPL)—An ordinary session of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] in six southern provinces, on May 2, ended with a resolution endorsing the front's tasks and orientations for 1990, advanced by its central level.

Held in Saravane Province, the conference was attended by 200 delegates from the Lao Front for National Construction of Saravane, Sekong, Attapeu, Champassak, Savannakhet, and Khammouane, in addition to its guest delegates from Xieng Khouang and Bolikhamsai Provinces.

Acting President of the Republic Phoumi Vongvichit, who is also president of the Central Lao Front for National Construction, addressed the closing session highlighting changes internally and internationally due to both subjective and objective circumstances in each country.

The acting president further stressed on two strategic tasks and six fundamental principles of the party, saying

that the Lao front at all levels has obligation to mobilize people of all nationalities across the country for their successful implementation.

Through this session, the participants have become more conscious of the front's role and position in the new era.

Phoumi Vongvichit Meets Mekong Committee Envoy

*BK0805121690 Vientiane KPL in English 0855 GMT
8 May 90*

[Text] Vientiane, May 8 (KPL)—Acting-president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Phoumi Vongvichit, on May 7 received Caspar Jean Kamp, executive agent of the International Interim Mekong Committee upon the latter's completion of his six-year mission in three countries: Laos, Vietnam and Thailand. The International Interim Mekong Committee has its office in Bangkok.

The former, on the occasion, acclaimed with thanks the latter's good offices in providing cooperation and assistance to Laos.

The International Interim Mekong Committee has cooperated with and assisted Laos in many projects. These are, for instance, the flood and soil erosion prevention project in Thakhek [district] of Khammouane Province and Tha Deua River port of Vientiane prefecture. In addition, the committee has provided assistance to the grain producing centres in Vientiane, Savannakhet and Pakse, and to the tree planting project for soil erosion prevention and the hydro-power survey projects at Namtheun, Nam-ngiao and Namkhan in Luang Prabang Province.

The total aid Laos received from this committee has amounted to more than 20 million American dollars.

On the same day, Mr Caspar Jean Kamp, also paid a farewell visit to Minister of Economy, Planning and Finance of Laos Sali Vongkhamso.

Lao-Thai Military Committees Hold Meeting

*BK0505070490 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0430 GMT 5 May 90*

[Text] The Lao-Thai Joint Military Committees held their monthly meeting at Meuang Phe village in Na Banoi Canton of Boten District, Sayaboury Province, on the afternoon of 3 May. The Lao side was led by Colonel Khamman Kommameuang, deputy head of the Lao committee, and the Thai side by Special Colonel Phanlop Plumchit, head of the Thai committee.

At the meeting, the two sides informed each other of the situation along the border and discussed ways of resolving several problems to ensure normal contacts between the Lao and Thai peoples living along the common border, in particular in the area between Laos' Kenthao District and Thailand's Tha Li District where the misunderstanding erupted following the 8 April

incident as earlier revealed to the mass media by Brigadier General Somboun Sisavat, head of the Lao committee. The two sides agreed to request their respective higher echelons to make arrangements for a special meeting of representatives from the local administration of the two countries to iron out the cause of misunderstanding in the presence of officials of the Lao-Thai Joint Military Committees. The Lao side also handed the M-16 rifle seized from a Thai ranger during the 8 April incident to the Thai side.

Houa Phan Signs Agreement With SRV Province

*BK0405102190 Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT
4 May 90*

[Text] Vientiane, May 4 (KPL)—An agreement on cooperation in various fields for 1990 was signed recently between the Lao Houa Phan Province and the Vietnamese Thanh Hoa Province.

According to the agreement, the two sides will cooperate in agricultural production, industry and trade based on the prevailing policy of restructuring being executed in both countries, thus ensuring mutual interest.

Thanh Hoa Province will help train 20 cadres of Houa Phan Province for the period from 3 to 6 months, and will supply Houa Phan Province with 100 tons of salt.

The agreement also talked about social and cultural cooperation as well as that in national defence between the two provinces for 1990.

Some 5,100 Lao Refugees Return Home 1980-89

*BK0405093490 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1400 GMT 1 May 90*

[Text] The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] office in Vientiane capital reported that more than 5,100 Lao refugees voluntarily returned home from 1980 to 1989. Of this number, over 3,900 are of Lao Loum, 350 of Hmung, over 600 of Yao, and over 100 Lao Theung ethnic groups. Most of the refugees are residents of Sayaboury and Champassak Provinces—over 1,200 resettled in each province, and over 900 others in Vientiane municipality. The local administration in each area has been providing assistance for these refugees to enable them to earn their own living. The repatriation of these refugees was sponsored by the UNHCR.

Assembly Delegation Returns From Sweden 30 Apr

*BK0505101190 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT
5 May 90*

[Text] Vientiane, May 5 (KPL)—A delegation of the People's Supreme Assembly [PSA] led by Mr. Somphavan Inthavong, member of its Standing Committee, returned here on April 30 after a 10-day visit to Sweden.

During its stay there, the Lao delegation met and exchanged views with Swedish officials of legislative body, court and laws.

The visit has contributed to the strengthening of the relations and cooperation between the two countries—Laos and Sweden, in particular between the two legislative bodies of the two countries.

The delegation was met at the airport by Dr. Bounmi Papphavong, member of the Standing Committee of the PSA, Mr. Per Gustay Kokerli, Swedish charge d'affaires to Laos, and other officials.

Meeting Held With Visiting Soviet Journalists

BK0505103690 Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 5 (KPL)—Soviet journalists in collaboration with the Soviet Cultural Centre organised here on May 3 a get-together with Lao media men on the occasion of the Soviet printing day (May 5).

The Soviet journalists, on this occasion, informed their Lao counterparts about their practical coverage of news and documents on historic events in the past decades.

Lao and Soviet representatives, then, exchanged views to widen mutual professional cooperation and assistance.

Philippines

Aquino Confident of Continued U.S. Support

HK0805101190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today expressed belief that the U.S. Government continues to support the democratic government in the Philippines and that it will not support any attempt to overthrow it. In her press statement, the president maintained that she is convinced that the United States had nothing to do with the aborted and bloody December coup attempt.

The president made her statement in the midst of allegations and strong suspicions that the United States was aware of the coup plans even before it was launched by rebel soldiers.

Yesterday, Subic Naval Base deputy commander Brigadier General Artemio Tadiar revealed that 20,000 U.S. soldiers, including 5,000 Marines, were sent to the base a week before the bloodiest coup yet was launched.

The president also recalled that the United States has repeatedly assured her that it will not support attempts to take over the government through unconstitutional means.

It will be recalled that former Southern Luzon Command chief Brigadier General Alejandro Galido claimed that

an alleged agent of the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency offered to provide arms to the rebel soldiers.

Meanwhile, the president refused to comment on or refute statements made by fugitive ex-colonel Gregorio Honasan the other day. In her brief statement, the president said that any statement by Honasan does not require any response on her part.

Salonga Urges Decision on Conversion of Bases

HK0705094990 Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 6 May 90 pp 1, 3

[By Lou Palpal-Latoc]

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga yesterday urged government to decide now on the conversion of more than 48,000 hectares of United States military baselands which have been reverted to the Philippine government. "We don't have to wait for 1991 for the conversion of the bases' land," Salonga said as he reiterated the Liberal Party's [LP] stand for the dismantling of the U.S. bases upon the expiration of their lease on Sept 16, 1991 during a party forum at the Valle Verde Country Club in Pasig.

The senator also suggested the sale of the 1,420 hectares occupied by the three military camps in Metro Manila—Camps Aguinaldo and Crame and Fort Bonifacio—to finance the conversion of the reverted baselands into an agro-industrial estate, which could easily raise P[pesos]240 billion. In turn, the three camps will be moved to the 50,000 hectares of reverted baselands, he said.

Small Group

He said government need only maintain in the metropolis a small military group sufficient to defend Malacanang.

Salonga, who is also LP chief, said that as a result of the 1979 exchange of notes between the two countries on U.S. military facilities here and the 1989 Manglapus-Shultz Memorandum of Agreement, 90 percent or 48,461 hectares out of the 53,031 hectares occupied by Clark Air Base were returned to the Philippine government. On the other hand, 8,516 hectares of the 14,819 hectares on which Subic Naval Base sits have also been returned to the government.

The two bases are the biggest military facilities of the U.S. outside its territory. They occupy at present 4,570 hectares in Clark and 6,303 hectares in Subic.

"Ang pinag-uusapan na lang natin sa U.S. bases ay 10 percent sa Clark at 30 percent sa Subic," [Our discussion regarding the bases covers 10 percent of Clark and 30 percent of Subic] Salonga said.

He also proposed the conversion of the reverted Subic baselands into a private shipyard, 60 percent of the

stocks of which shall be owned and controlled by Filipinos. The shipyard shall be open to all countries, including communist nations, and all vessels are welcomed provided they do not contain ammunition or military troops.

Salonga said the proposed shipyard will also be beneficial to the U.S. government since it will allow them to use it beyond the expiration of the bases' lease under the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement. The Philippine government can also benefit from the shipyard in the form of revenues and employment to thousands of workers.

The senator said many proposals have been submitted on how to develop Subic base after the American forces leave but he urged government to "ensure that it (conversion) will be in conformity with the objective of dismantling the bases to develop self-reliance and an effective economy."

He noted that the U.S. government intended to close down Clark Air Base as part of its military reduction scheme after 1995. The bases facilities in Clark will be transferred to Guam where there is more stable political and economic situation.

Soviet Envoy on U.S. Troop Reduction in Asia

HK0805082990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0812 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Manila, May 8 (AFP)—The Soviet ambassador to the Philippines Tuesday urged Washington to substantially reduce its military forces in Asia and enter into talks on a political mechanism guaranteeing the region's security.

"There is no Soviet threat in the region or to the region. I think that no one can seriously talk about that anymore," Ambassador Oleg Sokolov said a week ahead of talks on the future of U.S. air and naval bases in the Philippines. Noting that planned U.S. troop reductions in Asia due to budgetary problems would be "minimal and even symbolic," he said, "I think they could do better, and I profoundly hope that they would."

The Philippines hosts Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, the largest U.S. military facilities abroad. Exploratory talks on a U.S. request to extend their lease beyond September 1991 are set to start here on Monday.

"Of course we would favor (a U.S. pullout) and of course we would encourage whatever contribution others make in that same realm and for that same goal," Mr. Sokolov said. But he acknowledged that the bases issue was a bilateral one between Manila and Washington, and said a total Soviet pullout from Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay will proceed even if the American facilities stay.

He said Moscow "temporarily" left at Cam Ranh "between six and 10 planes which are of non-offensive character," which would eventually be withdrawn.

"The best way would be to have a balanced reduction involving all categories of weapons," Mr. Sokolov said. He said the U.S. insistence "not to reduce its naval strength" was "something we don't understand and don't approve of." Washington has rejected previous Soviet proposals for a mutual pullout from Asia, saying Moscow would have the edge in such an arrangement because it is a land power, while the United States is a sea-based power.

The commander-in-chief of U.S. forces in the Pacific, Admiral Huntington Hardisty, wrote recently that Washington must maintain its military presence in Asia through the next century in order to maintain regional stability. U.S. officials have lately been playing down the Soviet threat and have acknowledged the pullout from Cam Ranh, while warning that other countries might step into a vacuum created by an American pullout.

Mr. Sokolov reiterated Moscow's call for the United States to join the Soviets and Asia-Pacific nations in discussing the creation of a regional political forum for security, and said the sooner it was set up the better. "There is not even an attempt that is being made to sit or discuss all these concerns and grievances and problems," he said.

Citing talks on the reunification of Germany, he said the European example "shows beyond any doubt that where there is such a mechanism even the most difficult solutions are usually found."

Mr. Sokolov sought to portray Soviet military reductions in Asia as far ahead of any U.S. cutbacks, and said "we hope that the others would follow the example and heed the prevailing situation." He said that out of the 500,000 men Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev promised to take out of the Soviet Armed Forces, 200,000 would be removed from the Asian frontier. He said that following Chinese Premier Li Peng's recent visit to Moscow, the two powers would start talks on "drastically reducing to a minimum" their border forces, probably to the extent that only border guards would remain.

Labor Group Plans Antibases Walkout 14 May

HK0805092790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 8 May 90

[By Vic Pambuan—italicized portion in English]

[Text] A nationwide protest movement will be launched on 14 May to underscore opposition to maintaining U.S. military bases in the country. Mr. Carlos Allones Jr., chairman of the 1 May Movement [KMU], Visaya Chapter, told a press conference in Juan Luna Street, Cebu City that 20,000 factories with KMU members will join in the protest against holding exploratory talks. He added that the talks are intended to maintain U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

Allones said his organization condemns U.S. imperialism for causing misery in the Philippines, notably in

the Visayas, because it upholds exploitation and domination by big landlords, big business, and foreign monopoly capital on Philippine soil. Allones also condemned U.S. imperialism for waging a total-war policy which is particularly detrimental in the islands of Negros, Panay, Cebu, Leyte, Samar, and Bohol. Thousands of refugees, including 300 children, have died in evacuation centers in these regions. He also cited the killings and harassment by vigilantes; Citizens Armed Force Geographical Units; and fanatical religious cults of workers, peasants, and other patriotic sectors.

Allones further said that because of the to the existing realities, his organization will continue to oppose the maintenance of U.S. bases. He said that the government and the ruling elite are using money, influence, and political power to keep the bases here.

Allones said that the protest movement, to be initiated in the Visayas and followed all over the country, will dramatize the workers' opposition to the forthcoming exploratory talks on 14 May and to the retention of U.S. bases and facilities in the country.

[Begin Allones recording] *This walkout is to dramatize our opposition to the exploratory talks on May 14. We from the Visayas believe that the backwardness of the Visayas, the total war that is raging in the Visayas right now, is due to the intervention of U.S. imperialism in the country. So we see the U.S. bases as an instrument of this domination to control and of violence against our people. So we believe that we should dismantle the U.S. bases. And in order to dramatize that commitment, we are staging, together with the national office, together with the whole country, a walkout on May 14.* [end recording]

Meanwhile, KMU Manila spokesman Nick Alman expressed strong support for the protest movement to be initiated by KMU Visayas. He added that they will take part in the movement because they too oppose the retention of U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

Aquino Invites Poland's Walesa To Visit

HK0705050590 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0400 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] President Aquino has invited Polish labor leader Lech Walesa to visit the Philippines next year. The president's invitation was aimed at establishing diplomatic ties with Poland. The president's invitation to Walesa was conveyed to Polish legislator (Kristof Jojaliaw). Walesa's visit would establish a precedent with the setting up of diplomatic missions between Poland and the Philippines in the future.

Polish officials said Poland is eager to establish various areas of relations with the Philippines like trade, commerce and tourism.

Hong Kong Return Poses 'Serious' Problems

HK0705104390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 7 May 90 p 7

[By Chay Florentino]

[Text] The return of Hong Kong to China in 1997 has "serious implications on the defense and security interests" of the Philippines, making it necessary for the government to reassess its policies and begin long-term plans, a ranking official at the foreign office said.

An inter-agency task force to monitor regularly the developments in Hong Kong should be set up by the Philippine Government and have plans that could be implemented at the appropriate time, the official said.

Of serious significance to Philippine security, he said, would be the creation of political parties, pressure groups or organizations in Hong Kong which have links with the Chinese Communist Party. These groups could easily tie up with local insurgents here. The support groups in Hong Kong of the CPP-NDF [Communist Party of the Philippines-National Democratic Front] will aim for a status that will allow them "party to party coordination" with the Communist Party in Beijing and would heighten propaganda, recruitment, united front and other party-building activities, the official said.

Filipino domestic helpers whose contracts are terminated by 1997, he added, might opt to stay on illegally in Hong Kong and become "easy targets of recruitment by the CPP and other criminal syndicates."

Hong Kong emigrants to the Philippines, the official said, should be screened to prevent the entry of persons who could be a threat to national security.

The official also said that besides the security aspect, the task force should also reassess the government's trade and investment policies to take advantage of shifting labor and market trends resulting from the turnover of Hong Kong. For instance, visitors from Hong Kong are expected to change in 1997, with more investors coming in. The official said the government must "Act now" and look into the concerns that have been aired by businessmen from Hong Kong and potential investors. These include, among others, peace and order, the energy and labor situation, communication and transportation, bureaucracy and red tape.

Japanese Envoy Reiterates Support for Program

HK0405140590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines Tsuneo Tanaka reiterated Japan's adherence to its promised support for the Philippines' pro-poor program. According to Tanaka, he has already provided Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus with Japan's outline for this year's pro-poor program. Apart from energy grants and the supply of an additional 120 garbage trucks

for Manila, the program includes funding for the construction of irrigation systems and bridges. Tanaka also signed today a 7-million-peso cultural grant for the National Museum.

'Indicator' Views ADB Loan Disbursement

HK0405045190 Manila BUSINESS STAR
in English 4 May 90 p 2

[“Indicator” column by Irene M. Cariaga: “Philippines Receives More ADF (Asian Development Fund) Loans than It Pays Back—ADB”]

[Text] The Philippines received more loan disbursements from the Asian Development Fund (ADF) than it paid back last year, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said.

In its recently released annual report for 1989, the ADB said the net transfer of ADF resources—which pertains to loan disbursements less repayments and interest/charges—to the country reached \$41.01 million last year. The amount, the ADB said, is a 30.4 percent hike from the year-ago level. It is also 5% of the \$804 million aggregate net flow from the ADF to developing member-countries, a share which makes the country one of the ADF's major recipients during the period under review.

The multilateral lending body attributed the hike in loan disbursements to new measures it had implemented to improve project administration and facilitate loan disbursements. Such measures include:

- Granting of greater authority to the agencies implementing the projects and administering the loans, particularly in the area of “international shopping and direct purchase,” presumably of materials for the projects; and,
- Concentrating on the release of program loans. Based on the sharp increase in the outflow of such loans last year, it appears that this type of credit line is the more favored, the ADB said. This is because compared to project loans, program loans involve more flexible procurement and disbursement procedures, it added.

ADF loans, it was learned, are made on highly concessional terms and are almost exclusively extended to the poorest borrowing countries.

According to the ADB, most of the ADF recipient-countries, including the Philippines, registered a positive net transfer as a result of the increase in the level of disbursements during the reference period. But per the lending body's data, of the five Southeast Asian countries, only the Philippines saw an increase in net transfers of ADF resources. Indonesia received 2.4% less than it did the previous year, at \$53.59 million, while Malaysia, Thailand, and Singapore experienced negative transfers of \$270,000, \$90,000 and \$290,000, respectively.

Insofar as the newly industrializing economies (NIEs) such as Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan are concerned, these have already graduated from a dependence on official resources and are now in the net repayments phase, the ADB said.

The Bank data further indicate that the Philippines is the only member of the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) which has consistently been posting positive net transfers in the past nine years. This could either be because the Philippines is now that dependent on foreign loans assistance or it has been slow in its loan repayments.

With respect to the net transfer of the ADB's ordinary capital resources (OCRs), the country registered a negative transfer of \$41 million which was offset by the positive flow of ADF resources by almost the same amount. This has placed the Philippines on the same boat with Indonesia in the repayment performance of ADB loans. The latter, though, was in a worse situation as it continued to have positive transfers of OCR resources.

The ADB said Malaysia and Thailand have made advance repayments on their OCR loans which has put them in better positions alongside the NIEs. OCR loans, it was explained, are extended to member-countries which have attained a higher level of economic development. Only Indonesia, the Philippines, Pakistan, and Papua New Guinea have access to both ADF and OCR resources, the ADB said.

1989 Net Transfer of ADB Resources to ASEAN Countries

Country	OCR	ADF
Philippines	\$ 41.00	\$41.09
Indonesia	391.56	53.59
Malaysia	-50.79	-2.7
Singapore	-13.29	-2.9
Thailand	-.22	.09

Source: ADB Annual Report 1989

Aquino Orders Investigation of Rally Dispersal

HK0405121990 Quezon City Sports Radio 738
in English 1100 GMT 4 May 90

[Italicized portion in English]

[Text] President Aquino today ordered a speedy investigation of the Labor Day incident in Angeles City. In that incident, a number of demonstrators including media men were wounded after government troops allegedly dispersed the group of antibases demonstrators. Earlier, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos ordered acting Armed Forces Chief of Staff Rodolfo Biazon to create a fact-finding committee to look into the details of the alleged bloody dispersal. Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III reads the president's statement:

[Begin recording] As a matter fact, we are responding to that by being able to get the facts written down. It is

difficult for us to come out with an immediate reaction without having all the facts. [end recording]

Army Chief Warns Against Military 'Power Grab'

HK0405103790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 4 May 90

[By Eloi Aquino of Mobile Unit No. 12]

[Text] Army Chief Major General Guillermo Flores warned government troopers against a military power grab and told them that state affairs are run by civilian officials and politicians.

In his speech during the 16th founding rites of the 3d Infantry Division under Brigadier General Reymundo Jarque in Jamindan, Capiz, Flores said that the soldier's duty is to uphold the Constitution and support the leaders during serious threats, including coups. The army chief added that a majority of the military men fully support the Consitution and uphold the democratic system. Flores told the troopers that ballots should be the forum for disagreement. He made the appeal amid intelligence reports saying that the leaders of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People continue recruiting soldiers to join them in the various military camps nationwide. The recruitment activities are intended to strengthen and mobilize rebel forces for another coup attempt against the present administration.

In the same speech, Flores stated that the military leadership is sincerely carrying out efforts to address the soldiers' needs in the field. He warned the troopers not to be naive to the recruitment activities of the coup plotters. He regretted to say that most of their comrades sympathize with the renegade soldiers without knowing the real value of their actions. Although he agrees with their former AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] companions that there is a need for reforms in the military, one cannot claim that the only way to achieve these reforms is to take over state affairs.

Ileto Expresses Concern Over Mass Protests

HK0805094590 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 8 May 90

[By Dick Sinchongco from Malacanang Palace]

[Text] National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto today affirmed that the government can contain any attempt by labor, students, and other groups to launch mass protest action. He also warned that concerted action by all labor groups on the wage issue could pose a threat to the country's security situation.

Ileto issued the warning even as he maintained that the country's security situation was in good shape. However, he expressed concern that students and teachers may launch a mass action related to the issue of tuition fee increases come 1 June when classes open. Ileto also sounded the alarm about a possible alliance of all labor

groups to press for a wage increase, which he described as very dangerous. He said that a joining of forces by all sectors—labor, students, New People's Army, and rebel soldiers—will pose a serious threat to national security.

However, Ileto expressed hope that the wage increase issue will be resolved soon, adding that he sees President Aquino exerting all efforts to address the issue. He added that the chief executive is looking for a balanced approach to the wage issue.

Ileto also gave assurances that the government will not accede to the labor sector's demand of a wage increase and neutralize it by raising prices afterwards. He further said the military has the capability to foil any attempt by the various sectors to stage mass action against the government.

NDF Spokesman on Cooperation With Government

HK0805081190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 6 May 90 p 14

[Interview with Luis Jalandoni, National Democratic Front spokesman, by Netherlander journalist Girard van Mourik and Bayani Santos Jr., former business editor of VERITAS; in Utrecht, Netherlands; "The NDF Can Only Propose; the Government Decides"—date not given]

[Text] In the opinion of many "centrists," the NDF [National Democratic Front] is working to destroy the very democratic institutions which it makes use of when required; the Left is now perceived to be no better than the Right, the same category where Gringo Honasan belongs, interested in power without passing through the democratic process.

I will first question the reality of the so-called democratic institutions. I would say with regard to these so-called institutions, that the so-called representatives of the people are in reality representatives of the privileged class, hardly representative of the farmers, peasants, and workers. Look at those government policies and programs, the NDF as well as other groups, recently even such men as Bonifacio Gillego, have assessed for example that land reform has no chance of succeeding. Land reform has become too emasculated.

Elections obviously favor the rich and powerful, failing to elicit the participation of peasants who constitute more than 50% of our people. Workers and peasants have no voice in policy-making.

We in the NDF have given an indication of the type of society we would like to give; this makes us very much different from the group of Honasan. We have a good record of trying to set up programs. And we can stand on our record of 17 years of struggle against the Marcos dictatorship. In contrast, the Honasan people were with the Marcos dictatorship. We suffered hundreds, maybe thousands, of people, tortured and killed.

We are inviting people to look into our programs. With apologies to Bonifacio Gillego who, quite understandably, does not approve of our citing him, he has looked into our own land reform program and he concluded it was working and vigorous. In contrast, the land reform program of the government is arriving at a rigor mortis.

Our experience, record, and programs do not place us on the same category as the Honasan group. The Honasan group does not have a program for the future, much less did it have any record of a program in the past, that looked into the interest and welfare of the oppressed, and the question of national sovereignty.

The Left is largely credited for its principled resistance against the dictatorship as well as its programs of communication and organizing people against the previous regime. Do you believe that certain "mistakes" have eroded the high moral ground that you used to stand on? For example, your boycott of the elections, the Sparrow assassination tactics, and your continued armed opposition to the duly-constituted authority?

We struggle hard during the Marcos era; we worked hard for the liberation of our people, but we do not claim full credit for it. Democratic anti-fascist forces outside the NDF helped bring about major changes. Ninoy Aquino himself was killed for this cause.

We have publicly criticized ourselves for our mistakes; no group has done such. Have we lost the high moral ground because of our mistakes? I'd like to question this. There are differences in the perceptions of people from the rural areas and those from the urban areas. In areas where the NDF has ongoing programs, the effects of these mistakes might be less than the impact on the people in urban areas. In rural areas, where we carry out programs in literacy, land reform, health, etc... with direct impact on improving living conditions, these mistakes are also compared to the gains and achievements of the NDF.

In the urban areas, particularly middle class people who do not benefit from our programs, these have less impact. They don't experience what the millions in the rural areas experience from our programs.

Be that as it may, I believed that even among middle class professionals, there is a growing criticism of the Aquino government, and a growing understanding of the programs of the NDF. For example, the NDF is far from alone in criticizing the presence of U.S. bases. At least 15 senators are against the U.S. bases. There is a broad spectrum of forces upholding national sovereignty, against U.S. bases, and nuclear weapons in the Philippines. Against the backdrop of increased U.S. intervention in Philippine affairs, there is also the broad-based reaction of our people.

When the NDF made the peace initiative recently, hinged on a unilateral declaration of the removal of U.S. bases by 1991, even Senator Tanada and a number of people in the government expressed their support.

The NDF's high moral ground has not been decisively eroded. There have been significant NDF political errors, but moral superiority shall remain vested in the basic programs and the vision presented by the NDF for the future.

Many believe that President Aquino's "open options" policy on the bases is astute, considering U.S. aid, the denial of which could create economic dislocation, with devastating consequences for a government in transition. How does the NDF propose to dismantle the bases in so short a time?

It is never a simple thing to dismantle what has been there for decades. But we cannot overlook the direct and imminent danger from nuclear weapons in these bases. The U.S. continues with neither confirming nor denying the existence of nuclear weapons. We can invite an international fact-finding body to check. First of all, this is a constitutional mandate. Secondly, we think there is an imminent danger because any accident there could threaten millions of lives. Action here should be prompt because of the danger.

On what should be done, there are enough good minds in the country that can collectively determine what can be done with the bases. We are willing to sit with Tanada, with all sectors, to be able to determine what we shall do with the bases, the negative impact of prostitution, AIDS, and employment for those who will be displaced.

Now some have pointed out the bases could be used for agricultural purposes. Clark Air Base is as big as West Berlin or Singapore. From it could be taken large tracts for land reform. There are many possible industrial uses. We have enough good minds in the Philippines who can come up with alternatives within a short time.

The NDF is willing to sit down, immediately, with the Aquino government, to resolve this fundamental root of the armed conflict. We are even offering a unilateral ceasefire to show our support for the Aquino government and all democratic forces in these fundamental issues: U.S. bases, land reform, the external debt that is bleeding our country dry. Such basic issues of crucial concern to the people have to be dealt with.

The coup attempt last December showed one pragmatic use of the U.S. bases. If the bases were not there, what would have happened?

It is tragic that the survival of the Aquino government that came to power on the crest of people power would be predicated on the presence of the U.S. bases. Such a government should be able to keep itself in place. It is regrettable that this precedent would encourage future American interference, a sad testimony to the record of the Aquino government.

If the government has produced programs beneficial to the people, it could count on the support of the people

without having to rely on U.S. warplanes. It would be able to rely on all patriotic sectors in Philippine society to thwart these threats.

Have you considered the difficulty of a government facing pragmatic problems like a serious rise in unemployment once the bases are removed, with the consequent further increase in popular disenchantment. The serious need for every dollar in U.S. aid, at this stage of our history, could be threatened by a declaration or scrapping the bases by 1991. Have you looked at it from the viewpoint of cost-benefits?

The base rentals were supposed to be so much, on U.S. best effort basis. Now, unilaterally, the U.S. has cut this down. It's not mere theorizing. It's a question of basic principle like the question of national sovereignty, or the question of millions of lives because of these U.S. bases. The government, I think, in being pragmatic, should also consider the lives of millions of our people, Filipino dignity and national sovereignty. And in being pragmatic, we should find other ways and means of solving the economic cost of this dislocation.

If the government should go on with these policies, the less free it shall be; but the other alternative is there: the progressive and patriotic forces coming to the support of the administration once it takes the course towards national sovereignty and dignity. Instead of giving in to the demands of a foreign power, and the demands of the military, the alternative with its own risks and difficulties of course, is national sovereignty. Aquino will not be alone if she takes that step. Even in her own government, so many would support her.

The lesson of '86 shows that if you rely on the people's support, no matter how difficult—it might take 10-15 years—the one with the people's support will in the end, overcome, and not the one with the support of a foreign power, as Marcos had.

This is the NDF position: We have to be pragmatic, but within certain parameters. We cannot compromise the lives of our people, and national sovereignty.

This is doubtless, admirable. But given a theoretical situation, and a concrete problem, perceptions might change. Ortega was unseated in Nicaragua ultimately because of U.S. sanctions. The U.S. could very well unseat the Aquino government.

For us in the NDF, the important thing is still to be on the side of the people, and to win their support. To keep on giving in to a foreign power, or a section of the AFP [Armed forces of the Philippines], is like giving food to the crocodile. It will always ask for more.

Aquino has a wide resource of democratic forces that can be tapped. She could prudently galvanize these sectors to a unity; to counter these dangers from the foreign power and that sector of the Armed Forces. First of all, there could be ways and means of neutralizing those forces. The government has already identified those military

men sympathetic to the Honasan group. For example, in prosecuting military officials with human rights violations records, it will get the support not only of the bigger AFP, but of the people as well. The government taking decisive steps could get the strength it needs to counteract those forces.

The NDF can only propose; the government decides. We offer possibilities of dialogue.

If the Aquino government comes out now with the declaration that it will close the bases by 1991, it will certainly meet stiff pressures and threats. But on the other hand, it can immediately count on the support of several forces, including the NDF. We will declare a unilateral ceasefire. It will be a chance to unite all democratic forces.

If the government takes the right step, it can count on us to take a concrete step...Just reading the Manila newspapers, you can see the wide spectrum of sectors that will support her, within her government and outside it. The Rightist and U.S. threat should not be the basis of policy.

You are talking of the possibility of the NDF supporting the government. Can you rein in the NPA [New People's Army]? And besides, you are talking of a "ceasefire" where your forces co-exist with the legitimate forces of a duly constituted authority. Do you expect a self-respecting government to accommodate you?

Our record in the 1986 peace talks showed that the NPA followed the policies of the NDF leadership. Of course there were charges of violations from both sides, but in general most observers will say the NPA generally observed the ceasefire.

I will say that this force which the Aquino government sat down with the 1986 is considerable enough. We are not saying we are the only force. There are other forces, but we are a significant force. We have a record of 15-20 years of struggle with programs of our own. What we are saying is we are willing to put all of these forces in support of President Aquino, if she takes the decisive step. Certainly, it cannot be the NDF alone. The government's AFP itself has to rein in that Rightist sector of the Armed Forces.

Your position seems to be that of forming a coalition government. But this is not the democratic process, as commonly understood. Recognition of the NDF, because it has the NPA, is not the same as the NDF being in government, because it was elected. Are you willing to consider the electoral process?

In certain areas under NDF influence, such processes are practised. We like to make a distinction between elections such as these and those that are weighted in favor of the rich and the powerful.

We say that whenever it is possible to have free elections, we are for such. We are thinking not only the NDF here. The cooperation of other democratic forces is important. So there should be a coalition. Whichever part of the

country where it's possible, whether it will be internationally-supervised as in the case of Namibia or Zimbabwe before, a sort of a political settlement where there is enough assurance of free and clean elections, the NDF will be willing to go into that. Without such guarantee, it would be too dangerous for the NDF. With the unreformed AFP and those vigilantes, it's too dangerous for us. In fact in areas where we have influence, the people's committees are coalition types, from different political groups and organizations.

There are developments in the world now that have significant implications for the NDF. We are referring to perestroika in the Soviet Union, and the tide of democratization in Eastern Europe. How do you assess the NDF in the light of these developments?

The upheavals and events in Eastern Europe for us, first of all, have important sources of lessons. So, our first job is to study these developments. For example, there are indications that the political leaderships in these countries have been isolated from the people. We feel that this is a major failure. Second, there are strong indications bureaucrat capitalism came in, corruption, privileges for some leaders that heightened the anger of people. Moreover, the inability to provide basic consumer goods was fatal. In other words, elements of capitalism have been brought in, that brought difficulties to the people.

But in some countries like East Germany there have been major gains in terms of services for all. The gains have been overshadowed by the losses. You can say we are studying these developments as important lessons for us.

As these countries in Eastern Europe move toward capitalism, we in the NDF are concerned that they will experience the fate we in the Philippines experienced. Very soon they will confront unemployment, corruption, prostitution, with huge foreign debt servicing. We are concerned about this growing integration with the western system.

Do you think the huge problems of the country can be solved in six years? What are your solutions to problems of unemployment?

There is a question of our patience. The road to the future is difficult. For example, getting the bases out is not the solution to our problem. We cannot just take out the bases overnight. But we have to take the right step to prepare the future set-up, so that no matter how small a step we've taken, such step is certain to contribute to the attainment of our vision. We don't even have the capacity to threaten militarily these huge U.S. bases. We have to use a broad spectrum of methods—international pressure, mass actions, political moves, to rid ourselves of the bases.

No, I don't think it's possible to solve the problems of the country in six years, even for decades. Because of foreign interests, our politics have been so distorted and filled with corruption. But we believe that within six years, it is

possible to build a spectrum of forces, and to take decisive steps that will reverse policies detrimental to the country, like our foreign debt servicing policy, like Peru had done.

Peru? Isn't Peru in the worst shape? It repudiated its debt unilaterally, grew by 10% in the first year, followed by a deluge in the next year, with inflation of over 2,000%.

I still feel that the measure limiting to 10% of export receipts, it foreign debt servicing is a good move, although alone, it isn't possible to solve the problems of Peruvian society. It cannot go on this way in the Philippines although admittedly, it's complex. The NDF position is to embark on a complex program of land reform, cooperatives, national industrialization. We have to stop the bleeding first, and then to connect the cells again.

The decade has seen the leaps made by capitalist countries, compared to the retrogression in centrally-planned economies. And yet you still insist on this course for the Philippines. How so you propose to solve unemployment without foreign investment?

We are not against foreign investment per se, but against foreign investment that brings out unreasonable profits. We are against unequal relations. If there are regulations for mutual benefit, this is acceptable to us.

On the developments in Eastern Europe, I shall say it is not for us to judge. But for us, as we have studied other Third World countries—Tanzania, for example—there is a big problem of being a part of capitalist development where you are an unequal partner. You become a source of cheap raw materials, cheap labor, you become underdeveloped because of these relations. That type of development we reject. We are not rejecting relationships with capitalist countries. We believe we must develop a broad relationship of mutual benefit and support.

What's your position on Supreme Court?

I'm quite hesitant to give it strong faith. It has made decisions that show it doesn't have enough independence, succumbing to pressures in the military and other government sectors.

Even just on the granting of bail to dissidents, it has not been even-handed or fair. It will grant bail for Juan Ponce Enrile, but not for Messrs. Baylosis or Salas, even if there is no sufficient proof against them.

On Enrile?

Let us look at his record: he was with the Marcos dictatorship who rebelled against him in '86. Now he is in the opposition, and I understand he has a large economic empire.

One positive pronouncement from him, is his and on the U.S. bases. But I have my doubts because of his links with some sectors in the military. These links and his record of not always espousing the interest of the people (keep us guarded).

End to Total-War Policy Against Rebels Urged

HK0705020790 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] A Senate committee has urged President Corazon Aquino to renounce its total-war policy against communist guerillas. It said it is a major cause of human rights abuses in the country. The committee said in a study on the country's human rights situation that there is wide gap between state policy of protecting human right and reality. A copy of the report prepared by the Committee on Justice and Human Rights was obtained on the eve of the opening of an Asia-Pacific conference on Human Rights.

Military Chief Claims NPA Force Declining

HK0405093990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 4 May 90

[By Benjie de Galicia]

[Text] The strength of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [CPP-NPA] in Southern Luzon continues to weaken. Major General Rodolfo Biazon, acting chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said this in a command conference held today at the Officers Club House. The general told high-ranking officials of the Southern Luzon Command and of the general headquarters that the two major reasons for the decline of the NPA's strength are the people's genuine wish to dismantle the prevailing system of communism and socialism, as was done by eastern bloc nations, and their opposition to the rebels' plan to bring their struggle to a higher level or strategic stalemate. Another reason why the NPA could not win over the democratic government is its violent activities like bombing bridges, sabotaging electrical power lines, and carrying out ambushes against the military's engineering brigades who are responsible for constructing major roads. [Biazon passage indistinct]

Meanwhile, Biazon said that the NPA's total number of 25,000 in mid-1988 has been reduced to just 19,000 at present because of an intensified military campaign against the NPA, particularly in Southern Luzon. The general said that in 1986, 1987, and 1988, Southern Luzon was called the insurgency hotbed.

Communists Said Behind Manila Explosions

HK0705111790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Two powerful explosions rocked the streets of Rizal Avenue, Santa Cruz, Manila, at dawn today. The explosions were caused by two grenades reportedly hurled by four men at the corner of Recto Avenue and Rizal Avenue at around 0230 this morning. Three persons were wounded when the fragmentation grenades exploded. The office of Security Bank was also damaged. The suspects are believed to be communist rebels operating in Metro Manila and seeking to sow discord here.

100 Accused Coup Plotters Found Innocent

HK0705043590 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Some 100 persons accused of involvement in the aborted coup d'etat and presently detained on two Navy ships will be released today after they were found innocent of coup charges by military investigators. Major General Alexander Aguirre, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] deputy chief of staff, said investigations showed that the detainees did not voluntarily take part in the aborted 1 December coup d'etat but were misled by their officers. However, the soldiers will be subject to administrative sanctions such as demotion and non-payment of salary during their detention.

Tribal Families Evacuated in Misamis Oriental

HK0405102990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Some 1,000 families have lost their homes because of the military's bombing operations in Misamis Oriental, particularly in the mountainous towns of Balingasag. Hundreds of acres of farmland have also been destroyed in the region. This was contained in a report reaching Camp Aguinaldo.

The bombings which started in February have also led to a proliferation of malaria, typhus, bronchitis, diarrhea, and malnutrition among the residents who have been evacuated to two refugee centers in the neighboring towns of Balingasag. Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos has instructed AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff General Renato de Villa to conduct an investigation into the bombings.

Tabak, or Genuine People's Alliance for Tribal Communities, a cause-oriented group, reported that troops from the 89th, 26th, 30th, 36th, 53d, and 67th Army Infantry Battalions, along with a CAFGU [Citizens Armed Force Geographical Unit] team, have been conducting counterinsurgency operations in Barangays Kibanban and Quezon in the town of Balingasag since the first of February. The operation is centered in Sitio Lantad, Barangay Kibanban, an area believed to be a rebel hideout.

Tabak also claimed that 1,903 families, mostly belonging to the tribe of Higonon, have lost their homes because of the military operations. It added that 73 houses and at least two hectares of land have been destroyed by bombing operations carried out by two Tora Tora planes. Soldiers also looted and killed animals left by residents. Losses have been estimated at 3 million pesos.

Thailand

Chatchai Wants Censure Debate Before U.S. Trip

BK0805032890 Bangkok THE NATION in English
8 May 90 p 3

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan has proposed that the opposition's no-confidence debate take place June 6-8 before his scheduled trip to the United States the following week. Chatchai said yesterday that the opposition has yet to respond to his proposal.

The premier denied a claim by opposition Solidarity MP Dusit Sophitcha, who said over the weekend that the premier chose those dates for the debate after having learned from astrologers that his star would be particularly strong at that time.

Chatchai denied consulting with astrologers. He said he only wanted the debate to occur before he leaves for the United States on June 11. Chatchai said he could not postpone this US visit after having already cancelled a trip he was scheduled to take in November after Typhoon Gay struck the southern provinces.

The June dates are also convenient for US President George Bush, Chatchai added. During Chatchai's one-day trip, the two leaders are expected to discuss increasing cooperation on narcotics suppression, bilateral economic agreements and the 11-year-old Cambodian conflict.

Dusit said over the weekend that Chatchai proposed the dates during informal talks with a leading opposition member when the premier asked the oppositionist's opinion on how long the debate would take. The two arrived at a tacit agreement of three days.

Dusit said the opposition wished to launch the debate late this month because the public wanted a showdown as soon as possible. But he acknowledged that the debate would probably occur around the dates proposed by the premier. But Dusit said the opposition wanted to put pressure on Chatchai by keeping the dates of the debate a mystery. He also asserted that after the debate, Chatchai, who will be the prime censure target, may have to postpone his US trip again.

In addition to Chatchai, 13 to 15 ministers will be singled out for heavy criticism during the debate, Dusit said. He added that the premier could not avoid taking responsibility for these ministers' corruption and inefficiency.

Spokesman Reacts to Sihanouk Leave Announcement

BK0805011090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1804 GMT
7 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 17 (AFP)—Thailand wants to keep the Cambodian peace momentum going despite Prince Norodom Sihanouk's decision to take a long leave of

absence as leader of the Cambodian resistance coalition, a government spokesman said here Monday.

Spokesman Suwit Yotmani said that he had not yet received a copy of Prince Sihanouk's statement, issued Monday, but that he was keen to learn about the reason behind the decision, taken as planned June talks between Prince Sihanouk and Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen in Tokyo drew near. Prince Sihanouk, known for snap resignations in the past, said in a two-page statement issued in Beijing, where he has been staying since April 26, that he would take a "long leave of absence" and would no longer be involved in the politics of Cambodia.

Prince Sihanouk, who agreed here in April to meet with Mr. Hun Sen in Tokyo to "please" Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, also said that he would not attend such a talk. "I shall not be able in June to travel to Tokyo for political negotiation with Mr. Hun Sen because, henceforth, I no longer concern myself with political issues or problems of war," he said in the statement.

Mr. Suwit said he hoped the prince would change his mind and eventually join the meeting in Tokyo, but added that the former Cambodian monarch "has every right to choose whether to attend the meeting." "We hope and believe that Prince Sihanouk would think of the Cambodian people's interest more than anything else, and would do everything to bring peace to his country," Mr. Suwit said.

Editor Calls Sihanouk 'Prince of Caprice'

BK0805061890 Bangkok THE NATION in English
8 May 90 p 8

[Editorial: "The Prince of Caprice"]

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk is no longer leader of the resistance government of Cambodia. Now he is Sihanouk, president of Cambodia. The prince announced in Beijing yesterday that he would take a leave of absence as the leader of the resistance forces. We are not unfamiliar with this; Sihanouk did the same thing a few years back and resumed his position last year.

Sihanouk also said he would not be able to travel to Tokyo to meet with Prime Minister Hun Sen of Phnom Penh in June, after agreeing to do so when he met with Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and Deputy Prime Minister Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut here last month.

For those who are not familiar with the prince, quitting or taking long leaves of absence usually indicate his frustration or dissatisfaction. He has resigned as president of his faction Funcinpec [National United Front For an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia], and recently he quit the supreme commander position of the Sihanoukist National Army (ANS) and gave it to his son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

Apparently, the prince's action was aimed at Thailand, especially at Chawalit, who met with Hun Sen last week. It is simply another bluff. At first, he said he had to go to Tokyo because he was being forced by the Thai leader. Now he is trying to prove that only the prince can decide for himself what to do.

But the new move will only weaken the resistance forces and his own standing vis-a-vis Hun Sen, who had a successful visit here last week. The Thai press gave the Phnom Penh leader good coverage, something which the prince rarely enjoys anymore.

In his statement, Sihanouk asked Hun Sen to allow him to travel in zones controlled by the Phnom Penh government to work on his "non-political" mission—the "rehabilitation of my people." This too has a familiar ring to it. Not long ago, Sihanouk announced that he would stay in Phum Sereipheab, in ANS-controlled territory, until Cambodia was liberated. The news of his return to Cambodia was given extensive coverage by the international and local press. But government shelling and apparently living conditions of a standard a little below those he was accustomed to in Beijing, took their toll, and he vacated his new home rather quickly, vowing to return.

Chawalit is not going to like Sihanouk's action. The future of the resistance forces now largely depends on the feelings of the Thai army. If they agree to stop aiding the resistance, there are very few things the resistance will be able to do. This scenario, unthinkable only last year, is becoming increasingly realistic.

Sihanouk wants to go to Phnom Penh. In the past, he has ignored invitations by the Cambodian leaders to return home. It will not be surprising if by now, Phnom Penh considers the invitation to have run out.

Of course every new move by Sihanouk provides speculation by Cambodia-watchers. What is the prince doing? What are the actual motives? By this point, however, they may be reading too much into these moves. The prince, increasingly, is reacting spontaneously to circumstances beyond his control without much thought.

Without Sihanouk in Tokyo, the Cambodian peace process is stalled once again. But there is always the chance that in the next four weeks Sihanouk will change his mind again. This is more likely if the prince feels that his new move is isolating himself from the course of events. Perhaps we should even be happy about these vacillations, as they are, after all, a sign of consistency. The more Sihanouk changes, the more he remains the same.

Chuan Likphai Meets PRC Culture Delegation

*BK0505094590 Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO
in Chinese 5 May 90 p 3*

[Text] Chinese Vice Culture Minister Liu Deyou and his delegation arrived in Thailand on 3 May for a visit. They paid separate courtesy calls on Deputy Prime Minister

Chuan Likphai at Government House and on House Speaker Pancha Kesonthong at the National Assembly building yesterday morning.

Visiting Chinese Culture Minister Liu Deyou led his delegation to call on Deputy Prime Minister Chuan Likphai at about 0830. Both sides held friendly talks. Liu Deyou and his delegation are on a visit to Thailand 3-8 May at the invitation of Deputy Education Minister Sakun Siphrom. During the talks, Liu Deyou told Deputy Prime Minister Chuan Likphai that the visit is aimed at strengthening cultural exchanges between China and Thailand. Deputy Prime Minister Chuan extended a warm welcome to the visit by Liu Deyou and his delegation. Liu Deyou will also go the northeastern province of Nakhon Ratchasima to visit important historic sites.

Meanwhile, Liu Deyou and his delegation also called on House Speaker Pancha Kesonthong at the National Assembly building yesterday morning. Both sides held friendly talks on the occasion.

Thai-Lao Military Committee Plan To Meet

*BK0805085690 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia
in English 1500 GMT 7 May 90*

[Text] The Joint Thai-Lao Military Coordinating Committee will seek approval from senior military officials in both countries on its plan to meet in June to find ways to end increasing tensions along a section of the Thai-Lao border.

The committee's move followed a clash between a Thai ranger unit and Laotian troops last month in the area of Loei's Tha Li District and Laos' Ken Thao Province that led to the closure of the area's border pass. Committee members meeting in the Laotian province of Boten on Thursday [3 May] agreed to hold talks in June in Thai Li or Ken Thao pending approval from military officials from both sides. Laos reportedly wants senior Thai military officers to intervene in the conflict.

The Border along the Huang River was closed after two rangers were killed by Laotian soldiers while pursuing a group of suspected Laotian smugglers into Laos on 8 April. Laos, charging that the rangers violated its territory, opened fire on them. The killings led to the deployment of troops by the ranger unit based in Loei's Dan Sai District and by Lao forces along the 50-kilometer border section.

Laos also complained that its citizens in Ken Thao were suffering shortages of consumer goods after the pass was closed because they could not shop at villages in Thailand.

Colonel Phanlop Phlumchit, chairman of the Thai committee members, told the committee that Laos should seek permission from Loei provincial authorities to reopen the pass. Phanlop said Thai military officials believed that Laos over-reacted by shooting the rangers.

one of whom was unarmed. Phanlop also charged that Laotian troops opened fire because they wanted to protect the smuggling racket with which they have business ties.

Meanwhile, a Thai military officer said that the Thai rangers were murdered by a gang of Laotian traders, who have business links with Pathet Lao forces, to pressure the ranger unit into withdrawing from the border areas.

The officer said the rangers were sent from their base in Dan Sai District to Thai Li to crack down on cross-border smuggling and drug trafficking. The rangers' presence was putting a clamp on the traders' operations, causing some of them huge losses. But the officer said the murders did not pressure the ranger unit into leaving; they only caused tensions to increase along the border.

No Official Response Made to Lao 'Accusation'

BK0805032090 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
8 May 90 p 2

[Text] Thailand will not officially respond to Laos' accusation that the Thai military was involved in an uprising in that country's northern province of Xieng Khouang. Supreme Command spokesman Narudon Detpradiyut said yesterday.

Lt Gen [Lieutenant General] Narudon said there was no need for Thai authorities to clarify its role in what AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE and REUTER called a pro-democracy demonstration March 11-13 to demand a more open government and immediate action to solve the country's economic problems. Narudon first broke the news about the demonstration by telling reporters during a press briefing late last month that hundreds of pro-democracy demonstrators took to the streets in Xieng Khouang and in two other provinces in mid-March. But he denied any Thai involvement in the incident.

Last Friday, Laos' state-run radio called on Thailand to repatriate "all exiled Lao reactionaries" fighting Vietnamese and rejected as "fabricated" reports of a bloody clash between the demonstrators and government troops that left scores of people dead.

Aides Comment on Commerce Minister's SRV Visit

BK0805042690 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
8 May 90 pp 1, 2

[By Chirawat Krongkaco]

[Text] One of Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan's missions during his current visit to Vietnam is to pave the way for negotiations to revise a 12-year-old bilateral pact on economic and technical cooperations, his aides told *THE NATION* yesterday. The aides said the move could lift economic pressure that Thailand has placed on Vietnam since that country's invasion of Cambodia in 1978. The pressure has existed in the form of barring

trade that would directly benefit Vietnam's economic rehabilitation and other measures.

When Subin arrived in Vietnam on Sunday, he had approval from Foreign Minister ACM Sitthi Sawetsila to discuss with his foreign trade counterparts—the Vietnamese agriculture and food industry minister and a Vietnamese deputy premier—Vietnam's long-standing call for a revision of the Thai Vietnamese Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation, the aides said.

Signed in 1978 by former Thai foreign minister Uppadit Pachariyangkun and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Duy Trinh, the agreement did not work. Economic relations between the two countries were also put on hold after Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia.

The Vietnamese have tried to persuade Thai leaders to revise the agreement to make it agreeable to the real economic conditions of both countries, said one official source, who asked not to be named. The Vietnamese first raised the issue during Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila's visit to Hanoi in January 1989 and followed it up when former deputy premier Phichai Rattakun was in Vietnam in November, the source said.

The Vietnamese leaders have proposed that the two governments form a joint committee on technical and economic cooperations as a first step toward normalizing economic ties, the official said. Subin in March asked the Foreign Ministry about its position on Vietnam's proposal for a joint committee and revision of the bilateral agreement.

The Foreign Ministry replied that it had no objection to the proposal but advised that the issue should be taken up by the National Security Council [NSC], the source said.

"The Foreign Ministry noted that the NSC had made a resolution linking normalization of Thai-Vietnamese economic cooperation to Vietnam's attitudes on the Cambodian conflict and that if the Vietnamese proposals are to be accepted, this resolution must change first," the official said. The Foreign Ministry advised the Commerce Ministry to urge the NSC to call a meeting of representatives from related agencies to discuss the proposal, the official said.

After Subin returns from Vietnam, a meeting organized by the NSC is expected to be called. The NSC has laid down policy guidelines regarding Thai trade with Vietnam that will remain in effect until the Cambodian conflict is resolved.

—Keeping open a channel of trade between the Thai private sector and Vietnam on the condition that Thai exports exclude logistic goods that would boost Vietnam's military strength.

—Monitoring Vietnam's economic situation and capitalizing on positive developments in its economic reforms.

—Seizing opportunities to promote Thai trade with Vietnam on the condition that Thai businesses would not directly promote that country's economic rehabilitation.

Editor Views Thai-SRV Trade, Relations

*BK0805074690 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
8 May 90 p 6*

[Editorial: "Taking a Longer View of Vietnam"]

[Text] When Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan unveiled his policy to change Indochina from a battlefield to a marketplace more than a year ago, the plan was greeted with keen interest and excitement among the business community. Lured by abundant natural resources in the Indochinese countries, groups of Thai businessmen and potential investors swarmed into Vietnam in the hope of clinching quick deals. For the Thai traders, the idea of supplying consumer goods to a large but relatively untapped market such as that offered by Vietnam—and securing vital raw materials in return—was attractive indeed.

Much of the initial excitement and optimism has now evaporated. There is no question that the war-ravaged Vietnamese economy has the potential to eat up a great deal more consumer-good imports. And judging from the broad array of made-in-Thailand merchandise available on the streets of Ho Chi Minh City, this country has the potential to become a major supplier of basic manufactured goods for Vietnam. But the truth of the situation is that after several decades of war and revolution, the cash-strapped Vietnamese economy simply does not possess enough hard currency to meet the import demands of its population. This is not to mention the enormous improvement needed by the Vietnamese authorities to streamline their bureaucratic procedures and upgrade their basic infrastructure to make their country a more attractive trading and investment partner.

On the other side of the coin, Thai businessmen, particularly those who like to make a fast buck, have themselves partly to blame for their below-expectation performance in Vietnam. On several instances, greed and exploitative approaches by Bangkok businessmen put off their Vietnamese counterparts. Joint ventures in fishing represent a clear case in point. According to Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Trung, a Thai firm that entered into one such venture by promising to send an agreed number of trawlers to fish in Vietnamese waters ended up despatching a huge fleet comprising several times the agreed number of vessels.

Against this background, the current trip to Hanoi by Thai Commerce Minister Subin Prinkhayan should serve as an opportunity for both countries to reassess their bilateral economic relations and explore ways to take them forward on to more mutually beneficial ground. Unlike the fundamentally competitive economic-industrial structures of the ASEAN states, the

Thai and Vietnamese economies are essentially complementary. The level of industrial and technological advancement in Thailand today places this country in an ideal position to supply Vietnam with the sort of basic, low-technology manufactures and machinery it needs.

At the same time, Bangkok could make good use of mineral resources and natural raw materials, such as marine products, to support the next phase of this country's industrialisation. The cardinal rule here is that whatever form the bilateral economic relationship takes, it should work for the long-term benefit of both countries. Prime Minister Chatchai has warned before against unscrupulous practices by Thai businessmen bent on short-term gains. He has correctly advised traders and potential investors to take a long-term view and adopt practices that will eventually benefit both sides. As Thailand gradually exhausts its own domestic resources, there is a real possibility that Indochina, located closest to home, could become the main raw-materials supply source for this country.

One potentially competitive area in which Minister Subin should try to secure some collaboration with the Vietnamese is in agricultural exports. Vietnam is already turning a respectable rice surplus for export this year. Given the winding-down of its military involvement in Cambodia on the back of its domestic economic reforms, Vietnam could gradually increase its rice production and exports in the years to come. Since Thailand has been the world's biggest rice exporter, any collaborative schemes to help stabilise prices in the world rice market should benefit both countries.

FRG Charter Flight Lands Without Permit; Held

*BK0805084890 Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai
8 May 90 pp 7, 8*

[Excerpt] Deputy Communications Minister Nikhom Saencharoen, Civil Aviation Department Director Sisuk Chantharangsuk, and Civil Aviation Department Deputy Director Rungsiprasoetsuk jointly gave a news conference on 7 May. They said on 5 May at 0505, a charter flight operated by LTU [Luft Transport Unternehmen] Airlines of the FRG landed at the Bangkok international airport without permission from the Communications Ministry.

The aircraft has been detained until the captain or airline representative signs a paper acknowledging its wrong action and agreeing to obey Thai law. If there is no contact from the airlines by 7 May, the Communications Ministry will take legal action.

Nikhom says the airline intentionally violated Thai sovereignty and the existing agreement which permits it to fly to Thailand during the winter season only. The Communications Ministry had relented on the agreement by permitting it to land in Phuket if necessary. But the airlines never contacted the ministry and landed in Bangkok intentionally. [passage omitted]

Vietnam

Do Muoi Willing To Improve Ties With PRC

OW0705151990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1444 GMT
7 May 90

[Text] Hanoi, May 7 KYODO—Vietnamese Premier Do Muoi expressed a strong willingness to improve relations with China in a meeting with former Japanese Finance Minister Michio Watanabe on Monday. Japanese sources said. Muoi said Vietnam is ready to let bygones be bygones and repair the damaged ties between the neighboring communist powers.

The Vietnamese premier made the statement in response to a plea from Watanabe that Vietnam and China improve their relations, the sources said. Watanabe, a faction leader of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, also made a similar call for rapprochement between Beijing and Hanoi during a stop in the Chinese capital before arriving in Vietnam. Watanabe also urged Vietnam to make efforts toward normalizing relations with the United States, the Japanese sources said. Muoi asked Watanabe to convey Hanoi's readiness to improve ties with the United States when he meets American leaders during an upcoming trip to Washington. Muoi called for more Japanese investment in Vietnam and said Hanoi would welcome Japan setting up a consulate in Ho Chi Minh City to promote bilateral ties.

Watanabe also met with Phan Van Khai, chairman of the State Commission for Planning, and Dau Ngoc Xuan, minister and vice chairman of the State Commission for Cooperation and Investment. They called on Japan to resume economic assistance to Vietnam and requested investment from Japanese companies, the sources said.

Radio Reviews Cambodia Situation, Tokyo Talks

BK0705145190 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 7 May 90

[Radio "review" of the Cambodian situation]

[Text] Within the last week, there have been new developments in the Cambodian situation. Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk held talks with Thai Deputy Prime Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut and the advisors of Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan in Bangkok. After Prince Sihanouk had announced he would attend the Tokyo meeting next month, the leader of the Phnom Penh government declared that he also would attend the meeting. Chairman Hun Sen proposed that before the meeting to be held in Tokyo, representatives of the Phnom Penh government and of Mr. Sihanouk should meet in Bangkok first to seek an identity of views in the Cambodian issue. This preparatory meeting would be very important, he added. It will open the way to the success of the talks in Tokyo.

According to Hun Sen's statement in Bangkok, the Phnom Penh government's stance on the Cambodian issue was flexible. It stated: It is necessary to prevent the

Pol Pot clique's return to power in Cambodia, but we could not rule out the Khmer Rouge from a solution. Chairman Hun Sen stated he had accepted several points in the nine-point proposal of Mr. Sihanouk. However, more discussions were needed.

In the early days of May, Chairman Hun Sen held talks with a high-ranking Japanese diplomat, Mr. Yukio Ima-gawa, a specialist on Cambodia in the Japanese Foreign Ministry. In their talks, the two sides discussed the preparations for the coming meeting in Tokyo. Reports from Bangkok indicated that Mr. Chawalit Yongchaiyut was preparing for a trip to Tokyo at the same time as the Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting. Meanwhile, Vietnamese First Deputy Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem visited Japan and China to discuss the Cambodian issue and relations between Vietnam and these two countries. The visits of Mr. Dinh Nho Liem will promote the settlement of the Cambodian issue.

These developments show that Vietnam, the State of Cambodia, Thailand, and several other countries are actively working for a settlement of the Cambodian issue. The Phnom Penh government's flexible stance on the Cambodian issue increases the chances of making the Tokyo meeting a success. Japan and Thailand are preparing further for the Tokyo meeting. The two countries' plan will have an effective impact on Sihanouk and the Khmer Rouge to make the Tokyo meeting a success. However, after agreeing to meet Chairman Hun Sen in Tokyo, Mr. Sihanouk had made no positive moves to respond to the flexible stance of the Phnom Penh government and the activities of Thailand and Japan.

Public opinions want him to continue his positive activities to contribute to solving the Cambodian issue. This is a good chance for him to play his role in Cambodia. If between now and the coming Tokyo meeting the Cambodian sides take part in solving the Cambodian issue and they all want this issue to be settled in the near future, we can hope for the success of that meeting.

AFP Reports American Businessman Arrested

BK0805043890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0429 GMT
8 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 8 (AFP)—A U.S. businessman has been detained in Vietnam for more than two weeks after being arrested for travelling to the central city of Da Nang without official permission, a colleague said here Tuesday. Frenchman Thierry Rodzinek said he and American Michael Morrow had been arrested on April 23 in Da Nang, where they had travelled from Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon. They were told they were being arrested because the Vietnamese visas in their passports did not allow them to visit the coastal city, Mr. Rodzinek said.

The Frenchman said he and Mr. Morrow, a Hong Kong-based businessman and publisher, were then brought back to Ho Chi Minh City, about 650 kilometers (400 miles) south of Da Nang. Mr. Rodzinek, also a

businessman, said he had been released "four or five days later," but that Mr. Morrow, a former Saigon-based journalist during the Vietnam War, was kept under detention. Mr. Rodzinek, quoting Vietnamese sources in Hanoi, said he had been told Monday that Mr. Morrow was still under detention and held incommunicado, although he had not been formally charged. He said he had gone to Vietnam to survey hotel and tourism opportunities and that Mr. Morrow had been accompanying him "as an advisor."

When foreigners apply for Vietnamese visas, they are asked to specify where in the country they intend to travel and the visas list the places where permission has been granted for the applicants to visit. Mr. Rodzinek said Da Nang was not on the visas issued to him and Mr. Morrow, but added that officials in Ho Chi Minh City told them they could travel to the coastal city. Mr. Morrow, a fluent Vietnamese speaker, travelled extensively as a journalist in Indochina during the Vietnam War. In 1970, he was captured and later released by North Vietnamese troops in Cambodia, where some communist Vietnamese forces based themselves during the war to attack U.S. forces and their allies in South Vietnam.

Article Discusses Changes in Eastern Europe

BK0405152590 Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN
in Vietnamese Mar 90 pp 75-77

[Article by Vo Thu Phuong: "Eastern Europe—Eventful Changes"]

[Text] The situation in Eastern Europe continues to develop complicatedly and unexpectedly.

Looking at the overall picture of various East European socialist countries, one can clearly see a profound political crisis—especially the operational and ideological crisis of the communist parties there. Taking advantage of this situation, opportunist and reactionary forces and other forces hostile to the communist parties have intensified their anticommunist activities. This is the only thing they have in common. Swift, eventful changes unprecedented in history have taken place there in a chain-reaction fashion. A number of parties have changed their names and their political platforms. Many communist party members have renounced their membership. A number of communist parties, following the loss of their leadership monopoly, have shrunk back. They have been discriminated against. Even worse, they have had to ponder the possibility of whether they should continue to exist. This has led to such practices as letting the socioeconomic situation go unchecked or coming up with hasty decisions that have, on several occasions, drawn public protests. The popularity of these communist parties is dropping seriously.

Worthy of concern is the fact that pessimism has emerged, while internal and external reactionary forces are operating openly. While the old socialist model has been completely denied, a new socialist model is not yet available. The transfer of power by the communist

parties and the former governments to the new leadership organs has been carried out hurriedly, without any preparations. It is these factors, coupled with the anarchic socioeconomic situation, that have created a "political vacuum" or an "ideological vacuum." To quickly "fill" this vacuum, a host of new "parties" and new political organizations have sprung up. Now there are some 62 newly-established "parties" in Czechoslovakia and 20 in Romania. The GDR now has almost all the kinds of parties as in the FRG. The majority of these "parties" or political organizations have been set up to contest in the forthcoming elections and to receive foreign aid. The emergence of many political parties at a time when communist parties are facing a crisis has caused the people to lose their direction, which is conducive to the infiltration of unhealthy political trends.

Normally, an economic crisis will lead to a political crisis, which will in turn aggravate the economic crisis. That is what the situation in Eastern Europe is like. At present in Eastern Europe, due to labor strikes, demonstrations, and repeated changes in the state leadership, the economy has declined seriously. Gross national products have dropped to an alarming level. In the GDR, productivity in January 1990 decreased by 5.6 percent compared to the same period in 1989. The number of workers has been reduced by 38,000.

Faced with the overall crisis, the activities of state organs in these countries have come to a standstill or have become ineffective. Their inconsistent policies have generated conflicting sources of information in society, creating a bad impact on the public. The security situation in various areas, especially in the GDR and Romania, is now very alarming. Faced with a complicated social situation, in certain countries the correct tendency to restore national cultural traditions has been exploited by bigoted nationalists and extremists. They have steered this tendency away in a vicious, "anti-Soviet" direction. In certain areas, such as in the GDR, fascism has been rearing its head.

In various East European countries, there still exist two clearly visible tendencies: returning to capitalism or continuing to advance toward socialism in accordance with a new humanitarian and democratic nature. The people, on the one hand, are fed up with despotism and arbitrariness exercised by former party and state leaders, while on the other hand, forget those rights that socialism has brought them—the right to social welfare insurance, the right to work, the right to rest, the right to medical treatment, the right to free education, etc. After a period of indignation over the despotic and arbitrary regimes and over the abuse of power and dereliction of former leadership organs, a broad section of the innocent masses have regained their calmness and have pondered the national situation. Thus, efforts to "guide the knowledge" and "guide public opinion" in telling right from wrong, to safeguard socialist gains, to protect genuine communists, and to achieve alliances with progressive democratic forces against reactionary forces and against those saboteurs who pose as "democratic" fighters have

become an exceptionally important problem for various communist parties and progressive forces in the forthcoming elections.

A social problem of great concern at present in Eastern Europe is that human rights and equality among citizens are under threat. Many citizens and communist party members in Eastern Europe, who prior to the crisis worked devotedly and enthusiastically for national construction, now face the danger of becoming victims of unrest. Some enterprises in Eastern Europe now have refused to accept people who were former security agents or communist party members. This unjust attitude will only worsen the national situation. Many communist party members in a number of East European countries are now in a state of losing their confidence in the party while fearing being persecuted or terrorized by fanatic organizations.

The crisis in East European countries reflects that wherever a communist party knows how to predict the situation and take the initiative in carrying out reforms, they will be able to regain control over the situation regardless of how bad the situation may temporarily be. It also reflects that wherever there is a conservative, arrogant, right-leaning, and poorly alert party leadership, unrest will erupt more swiftly and violently, which is conducive to regrettable losses.

Faced with this extremely difficult situation, East European governments now badly need emergency international aid. Taking advantage of this opportunity, capitalist countries, especially the United States and West Germany, have set conditions for their aid. According to the Voice of America, on 17 February 1990 a U.S. assistant secretary of state declared: "The United States is especially concerned about those 'democratic revolutions' now taking place in Eastern Europe." He pointed out: "Emergency aid in the form of foodstuffs, grain, medicine, and other kinds of U.S. aid for East European countries must be linked with these countries' acceptance of the political and economic systems of the West." This has exposed the true nature of the alleged U.S. concern for the peoples of these East European countries.

Now, with the rapid development of science and technology coupled with increasing information and the high degree of internationalization of production forces, countries have established close and effective political, economic, and security relations. As a result, the unrest in East European countries has enormous impact on the globe and, first of all, on security in Europe. The liberation of pent-up nationalistic emotions may lead to more tensions in the region. The unification of the two Germanies is now under way. The fact that certain countries are applying for EEC membership will have a great effect on the political, economic, and social situation in Europe as well as in many other countries in the world.

Developments in East European countries are posing many important problems to the task of reassessing socialism, rebuilding the theory and format for

socialism, and also to the struggle between capitalism and socialism. These facts are inseparable from the schemes and tricks of imperialism and reactionary forces.

The situation in Eastern Europe continues to develop complicatedly, and it may go beyond predictions. Naturally, the world's progressive forces still hope that progressive forces and communist parties in Eastern Europe will cooperate in promptly bailing out their countries from these serious challenges in the advance toward a better future.

NHAN DAN Analyzes Strategy of Imperialism

*BK0605143390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 1 May 90*

[1 May NHAN DAN article: "The Dangerous Hands of Imperialism Are Undermining the Socialist Countries"]

[Text] The main goal of capitalism's general strategy is to oppose socialism. So far, this goal has remained unchanged because it is closely associated with the unchanged nature of capitalism. The unprecedentedly serious, general crisis facing the socialist countries has further exposed capitalism's hostile policy toward socialism and has laid bare the imperialist forces' current wicked and perfidious schemes. Those dark schemes originated from the anticommunist doctrine that the imperialist forces frenziedly implemented after the success of the Soviet October Revolution and the end of World War II.

Speaking on 17 April 1989 in Michigan, U.S. President Bush outlined the main traits of his new strategy aimed at opposing the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. He said: The Cold War first started in Eastern Europe. If it is to end, then it must end in that very region of conflicts. This argument has exposed not only one attempt to distort historical facts by claiming that the Cold War started with the birth of the East European socialist countries, but also the U.S. Administration's scheme to direct its spearhead offensives against Eastern Europe.

Everyone knows that the Cold War broke out following the end of World War II and was first introduced by British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's anticommunist speech on 5 March 1946 at Fulton, calling on the capitalist countries to oppose the Soviet Union and people's democratic countries and to attack the democratic forces in the capitalist world. It was also introduced by a policy formulated by U.S. President Harry Truman in 1947 aimed at containing communism. Capitalism's strategy of containment against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries has been in existence since then.

Nonetheless, after four decades of implementing this strategy, the United States did not obtain the expected results, as admitted by former U.S. President Nixon in his book "1999, Victory Without War," as follows: We

have experimented with the containment strategy aimed to encircle the Soviet bloc by means of a chain formed by allied countries. Yet, that strategy has met with total defeat. The Soviet Union has foiled our containment attempt.

Also in this book published in 1988, Nixon—a well-known anticommunist activist—outlined the main traits of a new strategy against the socialist countries aimed at winning victories without having to wage wars. In response to a new stage of detente in the world and in an attempt to adapt itself to the actual situation at home as well as to new U.S. strategies for the 1990's, Washington has fully exploited the difficulties and shortcomings of the Soviet Union and East European socialist countries. It has set forth a new strategy—the strategy beyond containment—to accelerate peaceful evolution and undermine the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, and the world revolutionary movement with many more brazen, delicate, and perfidious measures. Washington and the West believe that current developments have provided them with a unique opportunity. Former U.S. Secretary of State Vance and former U.S. Secretary of Defense McNamara noted with pleasure that the world has now entered a new stage full of important changes. The United States has a very rare opportunity never seen in the past 40 years and more. If the United States knows how to grasp this opportunity, it will be able to overcome all problems that may pose a danger to U.S. civilization.

The Bush administration has seized this opportunity by designing and gradually implementing the "beyond containment strategy." In a speech delivered at the Station College, Texas, on 12 May 1989, to inaugurate this new strategy, President Bush said: The U.S. objective at present goes far beyond a simple encirclement of the Soviet expansionism. We intend to have the Soviet Union joining the community of nations and wish to see it, at a certain extend, adopt a more open and democratic attitude. If the other side faces challenges with a responsible international attitude, then we will adopt our appropriate measures. Twenty days later, on 24 May 1989, in Connecticut, Mr. Bush joyously said: We are living at the ending stage of an idea—the final period for experimenting communism—and we are at the threshold for the forward surge of the democratic concept. He also pledged that the United States will spare no efforts in doing its best to encourage this.

What is the new U.S. strategic objective? The Washington administration wants to fire one bullet at three targets. On the one hand, it wants to speed up detente and disarmament talks with the Soviet Union to reduce its military expenses. This is so it will have more capital to improve its technology and reform its economy, which is facing serious difficulties caused by the very costly arms race policy, and also to restore U.S. competitiveness in the decisive race with Japan and Western Europe by the year 2000. On the other hand, in implementing this new strategy, the United States intends to shift toward comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union. This is, in essence, an attempt to take advantage

of the difficulties and shortcomings facing the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to accelerate its policy of peaceful evolution with the hope of eliminating socialism and socialist countries at the end of this century. These are the basic concepts of the "beyond containment strategy." Moreover, Washington also intends to use this strategy to oppose and undermine the liberation and national independence movements in order to force them to depend on imperialism.

To implement this strategy, Mr. Bush, in a speech delivered in Texas, stressed what the Western press described as the five-step program to accelerate a profound and long-lasting politico-economic change in the Soviet Union. In realizing this program the United States, first, intends to force the Soviet Union to reduce its military power to a level sufficient for self-defense only while the United States continues to modernize its strategic arms and implement the SDI program to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union. Second, the United States intends to demand that the Soviet Union respect the right of nations in Eastern and Central Europe to self-determination and to stop implementing the Brezhnev doctrine. This is to prevent the Soviet Union from helping East European countries when warranted so the United States may freely control these nations.

Third, the Soviet Union will be demanded to take concrete measures to resolve regional conflicts which the United States wants to resolve by force, and to stop helping the struggle of nations in such regions. Fourth, the Soviet Union will be forced to adopt long-lasting political pluralism. Brzezinski, former U.S. national security adviser said: Pluralism is emerging, and it should be applied to the appropriate political and economic system. On politics, I want to refer, first of all, to the multiparty system. Fifth, the United States will demand the Soviet Union's cooperation in dealing with such pressing global issues as narcotics and terrorism.

The Bush administration has sought by all means to force the Soviet Union and countries in Eastern Europe to shift toward the market economy as in the West, although President Bush's Texas speech did not officially mention this. Mr. Bush stressed: We must make the Soviet change become a lasting one. I believe that, after the Soviet Union, many other countries will gradually follow our liberal system.

By demanding that the Soviet Union implement these issues, Washington plotted to weaken the Soviet Union and aimed to change step by step its politico-social systems to serve the U.S. strategic goal of wiping out socialism by the year 2000.

Implementing the "beyond containment strategy" in the recent past, Washington and other Western imperialist forces have taken different guidelines and measures from those of the previous containment strategy, mainly in four respects. First of all, from mainly attacking socialist countries from the outside they have shifted to internal

subversion, stirring up and aggravating the emerging internal problems of socialism and instigating and stepping up factors that cause flare-ups and crises. Second, from mainly attacking the outer ring—that is in contesting for the region of developing countries to prevent them from falling under socialist influence—they have now shifted to direct attacks against the center, that is, socialist countries. Third, from rigid antagonism they have now adopted a flexible offensive by mainly using peaceful evolution measures.

Fourth, from mainly using military maneuvers they have now resorted to combined maneuvers and measures, paying special attention to economic, political, and ideological measures such as supporting anti-socialist forces, instigating dissatisfied elements, encouraging tendencies toward capitalist liberty and bigoted nationalism, and inciting national division and conflict. They have encouraged a shift to market-oriented economy, privatized the entire economy and used conditional economic aid to force a dependence upon capitalist countries. They have even encouraged the offer of aid aimed at organizing anti-Communist political parties, and spearheaded their attacks against Communist and workers' parties and Communist security forces and armies in order to cause political and social turmoil and instability. In conducting these activities, the imperialist forces have sought allies among the international democratic as well as reactionary forces in religion and bigoted and ultranationalistic elements.

As a fulcrum for the implementation of the new strategy, the Bush administration has acted upon Nixon's hint that military deterrence is the prerequisite for peaceful evolution. This was the very reason Bush said the United States must have an effective machinery of deterrence to persuade adversaries of its strength and decisions.

Those who are still perplexed and confused about the causes of flare-ups and crises in Eastern Europe, thinking they are merely and entirely internal and that imperialism is not at all responsible, need only look at the realities based on the words and action of Western imperialist forces to clearly understand the events. Does not the fact that President Bush had personally gone to socialist countries to openly campaign for pluralism and multipartyism and encourage a shift to capitalist market-oriented economy by offering tantalizing economic aid clearly indicate intervention in the internal affairs of these countries to accelerate the peaceful evolution and their Finlandization? One can also bear witness to the fact that the prime minister, foreign minister and leaders of some capitalist parties in a Western country had arrogantly gone to a socialist country to hold a meeting and deliver a speech openly criticizing socialism and campaigning for the election of pro-Western parties that they recently established or sponsored in that country.

If there were not subtle and insidious maneuvers, promises and vote-buying using large amounts of money, how could a political party sponsored and established by them only a month ago win 40 percent of the votes in the

general elections and with other pro-Western forces take over the administration? As for the current events in Lithuania, was not the passing by the U.S. Congress of a resolution requesting the Bush administration to officially recognize the independence of Lithuania, an act to instigate dissidence and bluntly intervene in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union, an act that has been condemned and rejected by the Soviet Union?

Imperialists and reactionaries do not loosen their criminal hands over any socialist country. Their hands appeared in the isolating envelopment of Cuba and over the frequencies of the so-called Marti television aimed at opposing Cuba. They are also carrying out dark schemes against our country. They have surreptitiously infiltrated their henchmen back into our country to operate and outline plans and measures to build up forces step by step. They have taken advantage of the current difficulties of our country to incite opposition, encourage the tendencies of pluralism and multipartyism, and plot the revival of some reactionary political parties founded during the time of the U.S.-puppet administration or other disguised organizations whenever conditions so permit. They are also seeking ways to cause social and political disturbances in order to create conditions for the overthrow of the people's administration, breaking up socialism and opposing our people's genuine independence and freedom.

Born at a time when imperialism still bears in itself insolvable contradictions and when difficulties, crises, and contradictions among the three imperialist centers are increasing daily, the struggle of nations for genuine peace, independence, and freedom continue to develop. The "beyond containment strategy" of imperialism, though very ambitious and designed to sabotage socialist countries, is definitely limited. However, its schemes and maneuvers are very dangerous and insidious. If they are noted vaguely or underestimated, we will have to pay for them and often at very high costs. This situation demands socialist forces to constantly heighten their vigilance and to unite closely with forces of the revolution, peace and progress in the world to persistently carry on the struggle to check, repel, and defeat all the sinister plans of the imperialist and international reactionary forces.

Cambodia's Ney Pena Leads Visiting Delegation

*BK0405154890 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT
4 May 90*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 4—A delegation of the Commission for Propaganda and Education of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee led by head of the commission Ney Pena visited Vietnam from April 17 to May 4.

While here, the delegation paid tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and was warmly received by Vo Chi Cong, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the State Council.

Ney Pena met with Dao Duy Tung, who is also Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee. The two sides informed each other of the situation in their respective countries and exchanged views on issues of mutual concern.

The Cambodian delegation held talks with a delegation of the Commission for Culture and Ideology of the CPV Central Committee led by head of the commission Tran Trong Tan, member of the CPV Central Committee. The two delegations discussed a cooperation programme on ideological work.

The guests called at the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Tourism, VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY, the party committee of Hanoi and the party committee of the central province of Nghe Tinh. It also paid a visit to the home village of the late President Ho Chi Minh in Nghe Tinh.

Cambodian Ambassador to Vietnam Tep Hen took part in all activities of the delegation.

Nguyen Duc Tam Receives CPSU Delegation

*BK0805085090 Hanoi VNA in English 0702 GMT
8 May 90*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 8—A delegation of the State and Law Commission of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee led by A.S. Pavlov, head of the commission and deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, visited Vietnam from April 26-May 5 as guests of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee.

While in Vietnam, it was received by Nguyen Duc Tam, Politburo member and secretary of the CPV Central Committee, and paid a tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. It had working sessions with the CPV Central Committee's Commission for Domestic and Administrative Affairs and visited Ha Nam Ninh Province and Ho Chi Minh City.

Le Quang Dao Congratulates Hungarian Official

*BK0505153290 Hanoi VNA in English 1516 GMT
5 May 90*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 5—Chairman of the Vietnamese National Assembly Le Quang Dao has sent his congratulations to Arpad Goncz on his election as president of the national assembly of the Republic of Hungary.

In his congratulatory message, dated May 4, Chairman Le Quang Dao wished the traditional friendship between the two countries further development in the interest of the two peoples and of peace and social progress.

Do Muoi Addresses Nghe Tinh Party Committee

*BK0605064290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 5 May 90*

[Text] The party committee of Nghe Tinh Province recently held an enlarged conference to study the resolution of the eighth plenum of the party Central Committee. Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended and addressed the conference. The party organization and people of Nghe Tinh expressed their confidence in the party Central Committee. They considered satisfactory implementation of the resolution of the party Central Committee eighth plenum as a practical act of realizing President Ho Chi Minh's great ideals of national independence and socialism.

Addressing the conference, Chairman Do Muoi reminded Nghe Tinh to strive to become an exemplary province. In the immediate future, that is, from now until 1995, it must ensure that no household continues to live in poverty, that all children receive a good education, and that there is sufficient employment for workers. This will be a practical act to turn President Ho Chi Minh's great aspiration into reality.

Vo Chi Cong Greet Anniversary of Naval Forces

*BK0705075490 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT
7 May 90*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 6—President of the State Council Vo Chi Cong has sent a letter of greetings to the naval forces of the Vietnam People's Army on its 35th founding anniversary (May 7).

His letter highly praises the naval force's achievements over the past 35 year in promoting revolutionary heroism, overcoming all difficulties and hardship, courageously and creatively fighting the enemy, winning glorious exploits in the fights to firmly defend the national sovereignty over the territorial water and offshore islands, successfully performing its internationalist duty, thus making worthy contributions to the common struggle for national liberation, defence and construction.

President Vo Chi Cong called on all officers and soldiers of the naval force to further heighten their vigilance against the enemy and do their best to build up their force and firmly defend the country's sovereignty over its territorial water and offshore islands. He recommended them to keep close relations with the people and prove worthy of the name as "soldiers of Uncle Ho."

Editorial Calls for Greater Renovation Efforts

*BK0705134590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 2 May 90*

[NHAN DAN 2 May editorial: "Accelerate the People's Movement To Bring Into Full Play All Potentials in Order To Change the Socioeconomic Situation"]

[Text] Over the past three years, the renovation lines of the sixth party congress have gained the sympathy and support of the vast majority of the people and have brought about important initial results in many fields, particularly on the economic front. Generally speaking, it is expected that peasants throughout the country will reap another bumper harvest during this year's winter-spring crop season.

Although these achievements are cause for jubilation, we should not let ourselves be complacent and subjective, because the economy is not yet out of the current crisis. Huge budget deficits still remain. The state-run economy has not yet achieved great economic results. Although the non-state economy has brought into full play many of its potentialities, it still has to cope with new problems. Cultural, educational, and public health care services continue to deteriorate. Bureaucratism and other negative phenomena still prevail within party and state mechanisms as well as in society. At present, food shortages during the preharvest lean period are affecting a number of localities. Due to drought, many hydroelectric power plants cannot operate at full capacity. As far as the Nam Bo provinces are concerned, insufficient power supply has affected local production and people's lives.

In summary, apart from achievements and new favorable conditions, our country is still rife with many old and new difficulties. By perseveringly implementing the renovation policies based on socialist orientations, we can resolve difficult problems and continue to lead the country forward. On the one hand, along with making new efforts to formulate renovation policies to develop a multi-sectoral commodity economy in which the state-run economy assumes a leading role and to closely combine economic development programs with social development policies, steps must be taken to promptly resolve new socioeconomic problems facing each locality.

On the other hand, it is necessary to initiate a strong revolutionary mass movement to bring into full play all potentials in order to accelerate production and expand services. More efforts must be devoted to implementing the three major economic development programs and to increasing labor productivity. Plans must be worked out to encourage everyone to practice thrift and to make citizens understand their rights and responsibilities. Steps must be taken to develop new positive factors. At the same time, continued efforts are needed to get rid of negative phenomena, especially corruption, and to secure social justice. In this way, there will exist conditions for the nation to develop past achievements, overcome difficulties, fulfill the 1990 socioeconomic tasks, and advance the renovation undertaking a step further.

Southern Province Receives Cambodian Distinctions

*BK0405092090 Hanoi VNA in English 0714 GMT
4 May 90*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 4—The State of Cambodia has conferred the Labor Order First Class on the southern Vietnamese province of Ben Tre and 25 Friendship Orders and Medals on Vietnamese experts of the same province for their contributions to the liberation and construction of the Cambodian province of Kandal.

Empowered by the Cambodian state, Lim Thy, secretary of the Kandal Provincial Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and head of a Kandal delegation recently visiting Ben Tre, presented the order and medals to the recipients.

On this occasion, the two sister provinces discussed measures to effect goods exchange.

Tourism Department, UNDP Conclude Project

*BK0405085690 Hanoi VNA in English 0718 GMT
4 May 90*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 4—The Vietnam General Department of Tourism (now the General Company of Tourism) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) have concluded a project on tourism, to which the former will contribute 175,000,000 VN dong and the latter 390,000 U.S. dollars.

The 6-month project codenamed VIE89/003/B/01/49 is aimed at working out a program for the development of Vietnam's tourist activities and diversify its economy and foreign trade.

Since the renovation initiated by the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam in 1986, the number of foreign tourists to Vietnam has swollen from nearly 7,000 in 1986 to 32,000 in 1987 and 40,000 in 1988. In 1988 alone, Vietnam earned 57 million U.S. dollars and seven million rubles through tourism.

Nationwide Agricultural Production Updated

*BK0505125890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 1 May 90*

[Text] Agricultural production over the past 10 days carries the following salient features:

To date, peasants in the Trung Bo coastal region and the Mekong River Delta provinces have basically completed their winter-spring rice harvest. The Mekong River Delta provinces alone have completed their harvest work on more than 745,000 hectares with a fairly high yield. Regarding the summer-fall rice cultivation, peasants have made active soil preparations along with carrying out the summer-fall rice planting. By 25 April, they completed sowing work on more than 290,000 hectares or more than 26 percent of the set plan norm. Due to this

year's late rainfall, the southern provinces have experienced drought, thus affecting the pace of their summer-fall rice cultivation. Some 10 percent of the summer-fall rice-growing area has been affected by drought. The hard-hit area includes many southern Trung Bo provinces.

Regarding crop pests and diseases, small leaf rollers have appeared in large numbers and affected some 250,000 hectares of rice in the various coastal districts of Nghe Tinh, Ha Nam Ninh, Hai Phong, and Quang Ninh Provinces. Some 130,000 hectares have been seriously affected. The number of caterpillars has increased by five to 10 times compared with last year. Brown planthoppers and rice planthoppers have ravaged 70,000 hectares of winter-spring rice. The situation was particularly bad in areas planted with the IR-1820 and VN-10 sticky rice varieties in Nghe Tinh and Thanh Hoa Provinces. Leafhoppers have appeared in large numbers

in the Bac Bo Delta provinces, particularly in the low-lying areas in Ha Nam Ninh and Vinh Phu Provinces. Brown planthoppers and rice planthoppers have continually developed in various summer-fall rice-growing areas in the Mekong River Delta provinces. Moreover, rice leaf yellows have ravaged part of the summer-fall rice-growing area in this region.

No severe sunlight or heavy rain is expected for the next 10 days. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry reminds the localities of the need to carry out the following tasks:

In the north, it is necessary to ensure sufficient irrigation water for the winter-spring rice cultivation and to continue checking the development of leaf rollers, rice blast, and brown planthoppers. In the south, particularly in the southern Trung Bo provinces, continued efforts are needed to complete the summer-fall rice cultivation and to protect newly-transplanted rice from drought.

Australia

Chinese Minister Officially Opens Iron Ore Mine

*BK0505080290 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 5 May 90*

[Text] China's minister for Metallurgical Industries, Mr. Qi Yuanjing, has officially opened a big iron ore mine in the (?Cobra) region of Western Australia in which the Chinese Government has a 40 percent stake.

The Channer mine, a project costing Australian \$280 million will supply up to 10 million tons of iron ore a year to China over the next 20 years. Although the mine has only just been officially opened, shipments started last year. An Australian company, Hamersley Iron, is the major partner in the project—one of China's largest overseas resource investments.

Illegal Fishing Discussed With New Zealand

*BK0705081090 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 7 May 90*

[Text] Australia and New Zealand have agreed to work more closely to detect illegal fishing operations in the Tasman Sea. Officials from the two countries said at their talks in Melbourne that they had already achieved excellent results from working together against the practice of driftnet fishing in the South Pacific.

Spokesman for New Zealand's minister of fisheries, Mr. Ken Shirley, and his Australian counterpart, Mr. John Kerin, said the two countries were also working together to stop illegal trading in abalone. The spokesmen said the two ministers had agreed that the new arrangements would help Australia and New Zealand to manage the Tasman Sea stocks and the valuable (orange ruffin) fish.

Radio Australia's diplomatic correspondent, Stewart Heather, says that during the Melbourne discussions it was foreshadowed that in the future satellites could be used in surveillance of fishing operations and the management of fish stocks.

Fiji

PRC President Yang Shangkun To Visit 'This Month'

*BK0805095690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0808 GMT
8 May 90*

[Text] Suva, May 8 (AFP)—Chinese President Yang Shangkun will make a one-day stopover in Fiji later this month, a government statement said here Tuesday [8 May]. It said no official appointments were fixed for Mr. Yang, who will be the first Chinese head of state to visit a South Pacific island nation.

Mr. Yang's visit will be made as he returns from a 15-day state tour of five South American countries including Chile. The Fiji Government statement did not say whether Mr. Yang's Suva brief visit was in response to an

invitation by Fiji's interim Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara during his April tour of China, Taiwan and Singapore.

The announcement also came as Army commander Major General Sitiveni Rabuka, who led two coups here in 1987, was winding up a nine-day trip to China. Beijing enjoys full ambassadorial ties with Suva, where rival Taiwan is represented by a trade mission.

PACNEWS Moving to New Zealand 'Temporarily'

*BK0705013090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0050 GMT
7 May 90*

[Text] Sydney, May 7 (AFP)—The Pacific Islands News Service (PACNEWS) says it is moving temporarily to New Zealand after being ordered to shut down its operations in Fiji.

Fiji authorities capped months of wrangling Wednesday [2 May] by telling PACNEWS and the Pacific Broadcasting Training and Development Project (Pacbroad) to close their Suva offices by May 18. Both are run by the Pacific Island Broadcasting Association (PIBA) and are funded mainly by the Friederich Ebert Stiftung (FES) foundation of West Germany.

But PACNEWS, which prints a package of news broadcasts by radio stations on various island states, said in a letter to subscribers Friday that it would relocate soon in Auckland. "This move is temporary and the PIBA general assembly will decide on the permanent location in early August," the letter said. It promised that service would not be interrupted.

In ordering PACNEWS closed, Fijian authorities said FES had exceeded its terms of reference by expanding its broadcasting training facilities into a fully fledged news service. But PIBA and the Pacific Islands News Association (PINA) have been under attack here since their annual conference in Honiara last October called for greater freedom of information and access for journalists in Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

Broadcaster Hendrik Bussiek, ordered out of Fiji along with a West German engineer working with the news projects, said the services would likely be shifted to Tonga or Papua New Guinea. Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Western Samoa were also keen to play host, he said.

Papua New Guinea

Government Imposes Blockade on Bougainville

*BK0805094290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0929 GMT
8 May 90*

[Text] Port Moresby, May 8 (AFP)—The Papua New Guinea Government Tuesday [8 May] officially declared a blockade of the troubled island of Bougainville and other sanctions to put the squeeze on secessionist militants.

Acting Prime Minister Ted Diro told a news conference that only approved ships and aircraft carrying essential medical supplies and fuel for the local hospital would be allowed on to the island. Mr. Diro also said the government had adopted sanctions that would affect banking, telephones and public services in general on the island controlled by the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) since March. "We can't continue to fund and expend money for the welfare and benefit of those who are totally against the state, even though they're in the minority," he said.

Government troops withdrew from Bougainville after a ceasefire to end a 16-month conflict which claimed more than 80 lives and forced closure of the island's Australian-run copper mine.

Mr. Diro said the cabinet, which met for five hours Monday, had approved the use of defence forces to enforce the blockade, but stressed there was no intention to land troops back on Bougainville. "But we are anxious to have normal police deployed back on the island as soon as possible," said Mr. Diro, filling in while Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu is visiting the United States.

The announcement followed several days of confusion triggered by the leak last week of a government order allowing the military to fire on any ships or aircraft entering a 50-mile (80-kilometre) exclusion zone around Bougainville.

Mr. Diro said that order had been rescinded because Papua New Guinea had no right to issue such instructions that involved two international shipping lanes which pass close to the island. He said international shipping and aircraft flying over Bougainville would not be affected by the sanctions.

Before the announcement, the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace accused Port Moresby of a "hidden agenda to destroy the peoples of Bougainville." It said there was no reason for the government to order the

banks closed, to shut down the powerhouse through lack of fuel, to stop commerce and halt exports of cocoa and copra.

Mr. Diro said Port Moresby was ready to sit down for talks with Bougainville leaders on the crisis that has badly hurt the country with closure of the copper mine, a main source of government revenues and exporting earnings. The Bougainville rebels have indicated they were willing to meet government representatives at a neutral site, possibly the Solomon Islands capital Honiara. But Mr. Diro said he could not see sending two senior ministers to the talks if the Bougainville provincial government was not willing to engage in "meaningful and substantive negotiation."

In another development, Mr. Diro said Australia had agreed to provide an additional 20 million Australian dollars (15 million U.S.) in aid to help the government here through the crisis. He said 15 million Australian dollars would be provided before June 30 and the rest in the next financial year to help shore up Papua New Guinea's worsening balance of payments.

Papua New Guinea recently arranged an 80 million U.S. dollar drawing facility with the International Monetary Fund for the same purpose.

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke also announced in Canberra he would make a four-day official visit to Papua New Guinea starting May 30. News of Mr. Hawke's visit came just a day after Papua New Guinea Foreign Minister Michael Somare sharply warned Canberra against interfering in his country's internal affairs. He was responding to comments by Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans that a proposed military blockade of Bougainville could affect international shipping lanes.

Mr. Evans paid a visit last month to Papua New Guinea, which was under Australian administration until 1975. Mr. Namaliu made a trip to Australia last year.